Canada's Gay Community Magazine

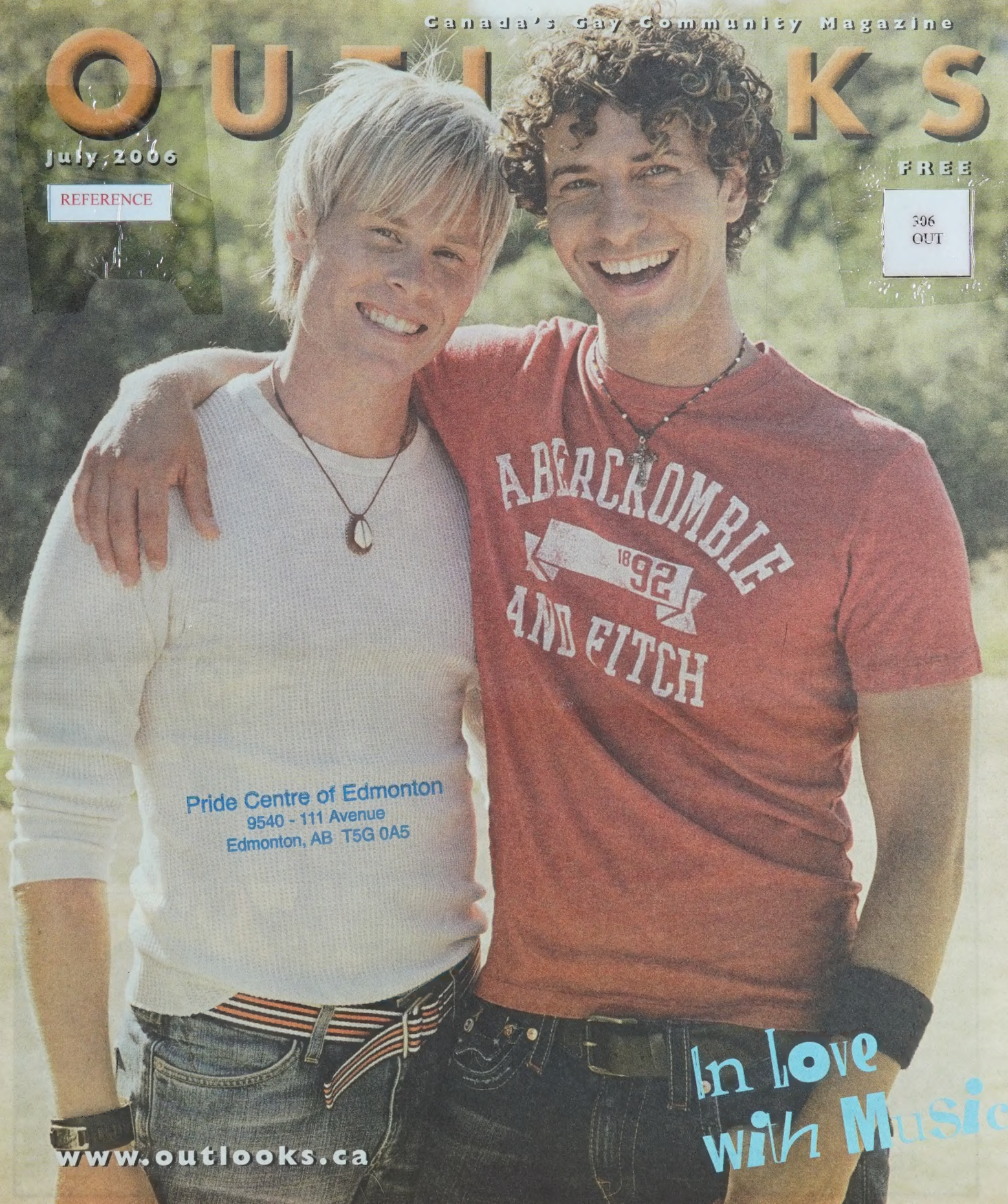
OUTLOOKS

July 2006

FREE

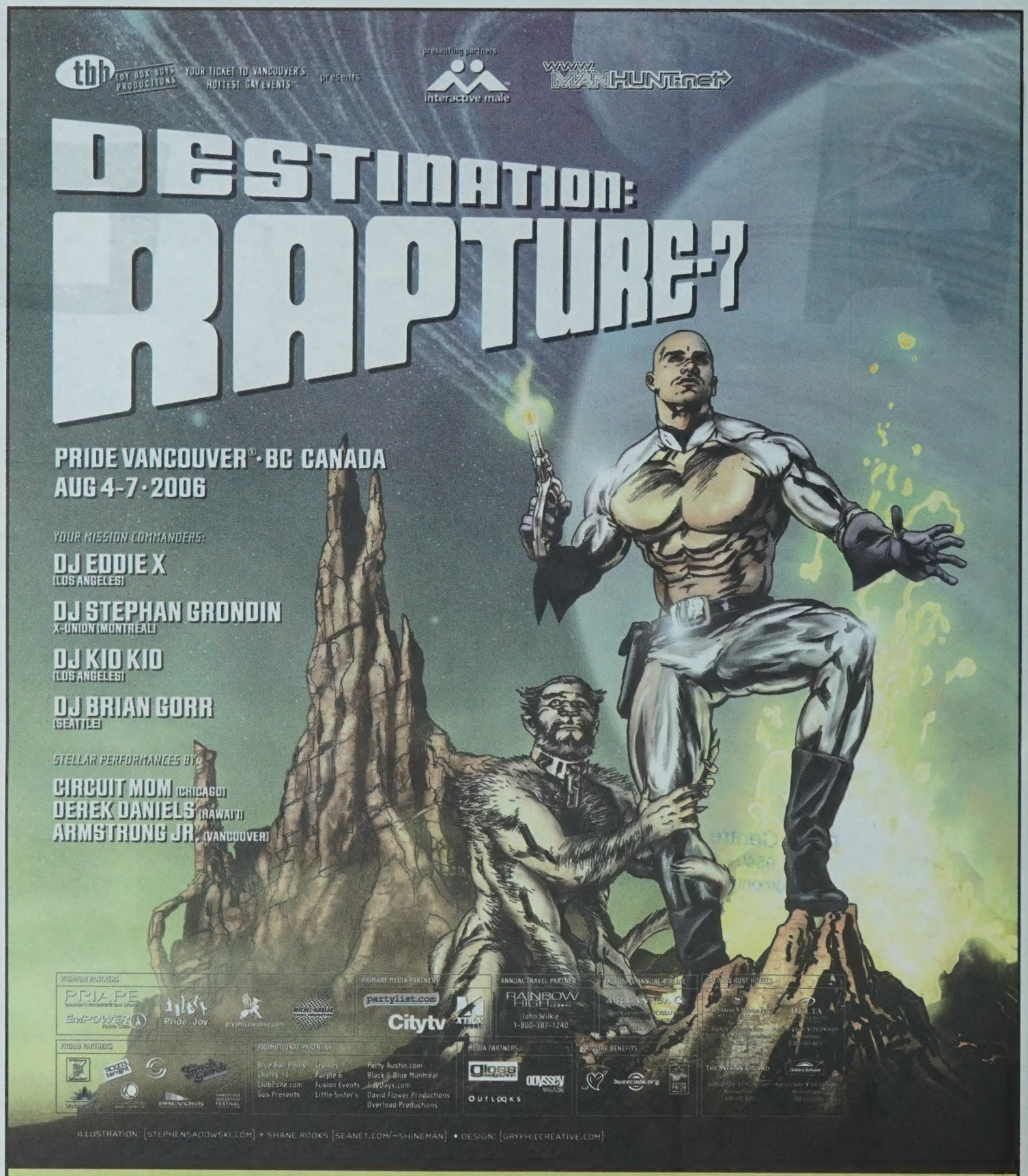
REFERENCE

306
OUT



In Love with Music

www.outlooks.ca



tickets, passes & event details at RaptureVancouver.com

July in OUTLOOKS

On the Cover:

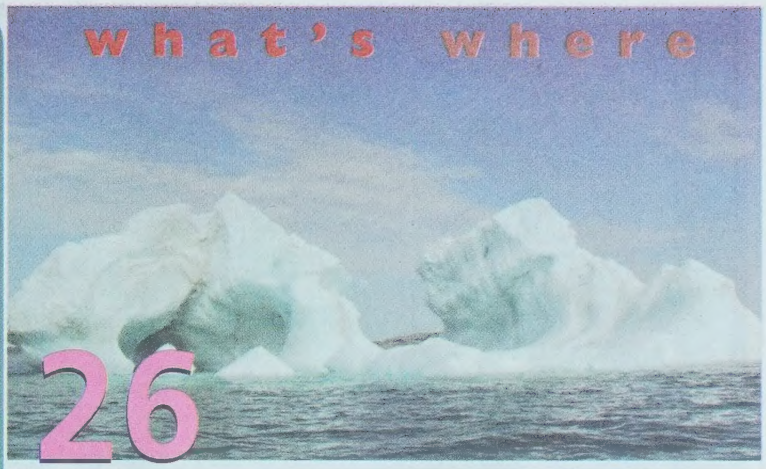
Cover Photo by Jerry Avenaim, LA, CA

Photo Left by Scott Ashton

COVER STORY PAGE 16

editorial 5
horoscope 7
gay men in business 9
don t you wish? 19
special event 20
classifieds 36

what's where



26

On The Rock:
Have you ever experienced North America's first sunrise? If your answer is no, then a visit to the continent's most easterly point requires a trip to Newfoundland and Labrador.

24

Do It Outside:
Summer is in full force, so now is the perfect time to get outside. The sun is shining and the cuties are out! What better excuse to mix in some fun while keeping up your fitness routine than getting out and enjoying some outdoor activities?

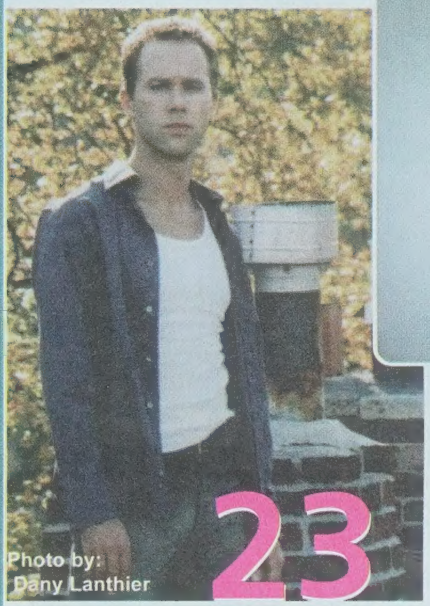


Photo by: Dany Lanthier

23

Straker Strikes the Right Note:
Highway 15 runs through the heartland of Canada, connecting rural communities along its long stretch of pavement. Jeff Straker, a Saskatchewan-bred musician and songwriter, is taking a few lessons from the route near his hometown...

OUTLOOKS is seeking writers & photographers

Photographers are needed to submit material for future Out&About coverage.

Writers are required to tackle news stories from across Canada.

Applicants should be committed, professional and outgoing.

Submit information to editor@outlooks.ca

1st, 2nd, 3rd mortgage up to 100% OAC
Equity Take-Out
Refinance, Purchase,
Line of Credit
ASK ME HOW!

Bad Credit,
Self Employed,
Tax Arrears.
NO PROBLEM!!!

MORTGAGE ALLIANCE

Caroline Murphy
Tel 416-926-1244
cmurphy@tmacc.com

www.mortgagealliance.ca/carolinemurphy
2005 Sheppard Ave. E. Suite # 200
Toronto, On M2J 5B4
Toll Free... 1-877-366-3487

RightBroker™ - RightMortgage™ - RightPlace™

IS GENITAL HERPES HITTING YOU BELOW THE BELT?

GENITAL HERPES FLARE-UPS CAN BE REDUCED.

Fortunately, there are effective genital herpes treatments to greatly reduce the number and severity of the flare-ups you suffer.

Some people don't take genital herpes seriously. Many don't know they could be contagious even without symptoms. Talk to your doctor about effective ways to lower the risk of infecting your sexual partner, in addition to using condoms.

Take control of genital herpes. You and your partner should feel better because of it.

Practice safer sex.

See your doctor or Sexual Health Clinic to receive the Herpes Health Pack™.

For more information visit

www.herpeshealth.com

or call 1-866-252-4666.

™ is a trademark, used under license by a leading research based pharmaceutical company.
These models are used for illustrative purposes only.

What's in the water?

By John Coulbourn

It's one of those times—sadly, since the last Federal election, they are coming along more and more frequently—when the simple perusal of a newspaper is enough to get thinking folks worried about the safety of our water supply.

For surely, if the behaviour of all and sundry doesn't convince you that someone has slipped something more than mildly mentally debilitating into our water supply, it is certainly more than enough to convince you that the only way to cope with the reality of it all is to mix your water with liberal amounts of your favourite over-proof libation.

The ruling Conservative Party of Canada—the one that we are told hopes to gain a majority the next time they take us to the polls—has made it clear that they are going to re-open the whole debate on same-sex marriage once they get their summer holiday out of the way.

This despite the fact that a recent poll suggests that fully sixty-two per cent of Canadians consider the subject closed and only twenty-seven per cent want it re-opened.

It is, on the surface of things, an ill-considered way to make friends and influence people, until one remembers that the twenty-seven per cent of the population that want the debate re-opened probably make up ninty-five per cent of the Conservative's membership.

Still, even that can't explain the reasoning behind the recent campaign launched by the Feds to promote Canada as a same-sex tourist destination on the basis of the fact that gays and lesbians can get married here.

Now, certainly, we are all for the idea of Canada serving as the honeymoon capital of the world for our gay and lesbian brethren, but we have to admit that we find the idea of Canada being promoted as same by a government committed to rolling back the clock on the whole issue, more than merely passing strange.

Still, the whole concept does have possibilities—so much so that one can't help but regret the fact that Stephen Harper wasn't running the government in the days of U.S. slavery, the Chinese head tax or even the Japanese internment during World War II.

Imagine the tourism pitches then:

"Hop aboard the Underground Railroad to Canada, where Slavery is illegal—for now!"

"See Canada's Rocky Mountains up close and personal. Dig in and get your hands dirty. No money back guarantee on special taxes, but we promise to apologise within a century!"

"Come to the interior of British Columbia for the largest Sino-Canadian reunion ever seen outside Japan—and don't bother to pack. We'll take care of everything. Actually, we'll just take everything."

In the end, you see, all it takes is a little spin—which is precisely what Ryerson University in Toronto is looking for in the wake of its decision to award ethicist Margaret Somerville—a well-known opponent of same sex-marriage and same-sex parenting—an honourary degree.

It's a decision that would have been bad enough had the brain trust at Ryerson intended to offend the gay community or even curry favour with the ruling Harper Conservatives—but that would be crediting them with too much intelligence it seems.

After their decision caused a firestorm of controversy, Ryerson's selection committee admitted they were unaware of Somerville's stance on such issues. (After all, she's only been all over the CBC for that last few years) and admitted that her views would have given them "serious pause" had they been familiar with them.

And finally, for those of you who might still be clinging resolutely to the whole theory of intelligent design in the universe, it's time to let it go, for surely, the power behind intelligent design could have come up with somebody brighter to sit at the head of the Knights of Columbus Ontario State Council—a body which apparently pulled the plug on its Ontario Youth Leadership Camp because its chairman was concerned that the camp would "promote a homosexual lifestyle". The reason? Former hostage James Loney, who revealed his homosexuality after his release, had served at the camp in his pre-hostage days as a councillor.

In light of this, we fully expect to see the ceiling a certain chapel in Rome painted a lovely shade of battle-ship grey at any moment, because the world famous frescos that currently adorn it were painted by a gay man—and looking at them might promote a homosexual lifestyle.

It is, in the end, enough to convince most reasonable people that someone has indeed been tampering with the water supply. And just to be on the safe side, I think for the rest of the summer, I'll just purify all the water I drink with a good measure of vodka.

Here's lookin' at you! ▼

John Coulbourn is a native Albertan who lived for many years in Calgary. He now makes his home in Toronto, where he covers performing arts for the Toronto Sun.

OUTLOOKS

ESTABLISHED 1997

Publisher ..... Roy Heale
Copy Editor ..... Michael Wright
Sales Executive ..... Cap Peters
Graphics ..... Digital Avatar and Karin Karlsson
Toronto Sales ..... Michael Wile
Webmaster ..... Tyler Cranston
Proofing ..... Colleen Hanna

July 2006 Contributing Writers:

John Coulbourn, Dale Smith, Darrin Hagen, Josh Murray, Daniel Wylie, Michael Sinnott, Charlene Lichtenstein, Ralph Higgins, Jason Krell, Douglas Boyce, Ryan Spring, Simona Rabinovitch

Distribution ..... DLRJ Enterprises Ltd., Calgary
..... Hawk Man & Van, Toronto
..... S*A*R*G*E Distribution, Edmonton

Outlooks Mailing Address:
Box 439, Suite 100,
1039 17th Avenue S.W.
Calgary, Alberta T2T 0B2
Phone: (403) 228-1157
Fax: (403) 228-7735
Toll-Free Fax: 1-877-885-6657
Outlooks Toronto:
Local (416) 531-1483
michael@outlooks.ca
Toll-Free (866) 645-0113
Calgary Office Toll-Free:
1-888-228-1157
Primary E-mail: main@outlooks.ca
Editorial: editor@outlooks.ca
Sales: sales@outlooks.ca
Graphics: graphics@outlooks.ca
World Wide Web: www.outlooks.ca

Outlooks is a proud member of the Canadian GLBT Publishers Association

Outlooks is published 12 times yearly. Please send submissions or queries to the mailing address listed above. The opinions expressed in this magazine are not necessarily those of the staff. *Outlooks* is not responsible for unsolicited work or photographic materials. All material contained herein is the property of *Outlooks* and may not be used without express written consent of the publisher or editor.

We acknowledge the financial support of the Government of Canada through the Canada Magazine Fund toward our editorial costs.

Canada

ISSN 1704-7927
National Library of Canada
Ottawa

FAHRENHEIT HOTEL

Now's your chance, Gay Vancouver has come of age: The Fahrenheit Hotel. We supply **What:** The Place to Stay – **Where, When** and **How** you want...maybe even with **Who**.

Get in *for* $69. Full Details at:
www.TheFahrenheitHotel.com
604.685.2615
Davie & Granville, Vancouver, Canada.

Cruisey T –aboard the Britannia June 11

Out for Kicks Soccer Team

Book Black –at Pump Jack

Benjamin (Left) and Donal Hebner

Admirers

Planning an event in Vancouver? Contact Barry at (604) 685-1377 and he'll see about covering it in Out & About. Photos by: Barry Piersdorff

Stardom –June 1 VanCity Theatre –fundraiser for the Centre

Lovie Eli

Donna Wilson (Executive Director of the Centre) & Steven Bourne

Bill Monroe (Left) & Leora Cashe

KUDOS VANCOUVER JULY 2006

It's a Loving Spoonful Special edition!

A Loving Spoonful

Summer and ongoing fundraising activities in support of A Loving Spoonful

CruiseyT Productions has raised **$582,000** for worthy causes and direct service AIDS agencies since it's inception in 1991. **A Loving Spoonful** will be selling ***raffle tickets for $5 on every cruise this year for two prize packages of a 32 inch flat screen TV and DVD player***. See www.cruiseyt.com for more info.

Upcoming fundraising Events

Every Thursday **ZIN Restaurant & Lounge** 1277 Robson Street - Need to hold a dinner meeting downtown? Reward a colleague or celebrate any event? ***Reserve the Red Ribbon Table any Thursday night*** at ZIN Restaurant & Lounge by calling 604-408-1700 and ***25% of your meal will benefit A Loving Spoonful and Friends For Life*** all year long. www.zin-restaurant.com

Third Monday of Every Month ***The Party*** - Presented by the Lords of the **"House of Just Cuz"** at the Dufferin, this combination Drag Show and party with contests and draws, benefits **A Loving Spoonful** every month. Minimum Donation $2.00 at the door.

Saturdays **Popular - Celebrities Night Club** 1022 Davie Street - Resident DJ Dickey Doo and weekly special guests spin house until 3 am. Hosted by Cotton and The House of Venus. Cover $10.00. More info at www.celebritiesnightclub.com

Sundays ***CHURCH*** - Hosted by ***Symone*** with DJ's ***G-Luve*** and ***Motomasa*** at the **Tokyo Lounge** 1050 Alberni St.

Recent fundraising results

Ongoing Supporters

Mondonation On Mondonation's website people can customize a totally 'sweat free' t-shirt by completing the sentence "I believe...." ***$10 from the sale of every t-shirt may be directed to A Loving Spoonful.*** www.mondonation.com

Elev8 Jewelry Local designer **Julie Marandjian** donates ***10% of her sales to A Loving Spoonful.*** You can view and purchase her exquisite designs at **Plenty** in Metropolis at Metrotown or 2803 West Broadway or at **House of Jewels** 953 Nicola Street in the West End.

Catering 911 Have a catering emergency? Add some gusto and additional flavours to your housewarming or summertime block party. Call Carlos at 778-891-1994 or www.catering911.com and he will donate ***5% of his profits to A Loving Spoonful*** to spice up the annual Client Picnic.

Urban Fare You can donate your Urban Fare points to A Loving Spoonful to purchase baby formula and pablum. ***Your 1,000 points equals $1.00 and Urban Fare will match that.***

Capers on Robson Don't ever run out of coffee again – especially on a weekend morning. Capers at 1675 Robson Street carries **'A Loving Spoonful'** coffee beans. ***$1.00 from every pound sold is donated to our programs.***

Elbow Room Cafe Treat yourself to a breakfast and a little josh & jive abuse at the Elbow Room Café 560 Davie Street. You won't be able to finish your meal, but you will have a chance to make a donation. ***The Elbow Room has bullied their customers into donating almost $50,000 to A Loving Spoonful over the years.***

New manager for the PumpJack Pub

Vince and Steve are please to announce that **Andrew Watling** has just been appointed as General Manager.

This monthly community feature sponsored by your friends at:

PUMPJACK VANCOUVER DIVERSITY

Co-sponsors:

copythis.ca

OUTLOOKS

Thank you for supporting our Vancouver & area community events!

Let us know about YOUR upcoming non-profit AIDS & GLBT fundraising event and recent financial results. Please email us your next month info & logo to: PumpJackEvents@shaw.ca by the 10th of each month.

HOROSCOPE

Prepare for the fireworks as July bursts upon the scene. Someone somewhere can ignite your fuse thanks to a rollicking Mars that aspects a slew of "outer" planets. Will you be a flash in the pan or a supernova? Surprise me....

ARIES (MARCH 21 - APRIL 20)

As the temperature rises through July, proud Rams' thoughts will turn to ... errr ... dieting and all matters of health. Isn't it a little too late? I guess not. You can modify your routines without much drastic change and see some very beneficial effects. But don't hide yourself away and cover yourself up while you chisel and buff. You actually have a lot to be proud of. A lot.

TAURUS (APRIL 21 - MAY 21)

"Fun" will be your middle name all through July. Well maybe it's more along the lines of "Fanatic". Whatever gets your blood going, trot it Out and show it off. Queer Bulls are the ones to see and be seen. You instinctively know where all the best parties are located. Hurry and sniff them up before the summer speeds by. By autumn, you'll be content to just feather your nest.

GEMINI (MAY 22 - JUNE 21)

All the action will be home centered this July. Pink Twins won't be tempted to stray far from the domestic scene. You'll be interested in improving your surroundings and filling them up with gay company. So, expect to do more than your share of entertaining all through the summer. You won't mind, as long as you can recruit a few helping hands in the kitchen ... or wherever!

CANCER (JUNE 22 - JULY 23)

Don't sit quietly stewing in your own thoughts this July. Mars commands you to say what needs to be said. Gay Crabs have put up with lots of hot air from certain idiots over the past few weeks. Quiet suffering is not your thing. Of course, that may mean that you make a few folks uncomfortable and burn a few bridges. Did I see an ash or two fly by?

LEO (JULY 24 - AUGUST 23)

Fools and their money are soon parted. But a smart proud Lion can invest, divest or just enjoy the conquest that money provides. July will be the time to enjoy your gotten gains and use them to grease the wheels for future comfort. Will you be tempted to squander your dough on just another yeasty lump? Why not wait to see how adding a little heat can change the recipe.

VIRGO (AUGUST 24 - SEPTEMBER 23)

There will be times when you will ache to be the center of attention this July. Maybe you can make a deeply moving first impression that will carry you on wings of glory through the month. Or maybe, with rushing and reckless Mars, queer Virgins will manage to create a vastly different yet equally memorable presence. Ahem. See yourself as others might see you. Need I say more...?

LIBRA (SEPTEMBER 24 - OCTOBER 23)

Mars will move in mysterious ways and so should you all through July. Proud Libras have that certain something and can use it to their advantage around friends and among those you seek to impress. But don't just spread it around for selfish purposes. You can offer a great deal to our community. Volunteer or at least donate money, you cheap thing.

SCORPIO (OCTOBER 24 - NOVEMBER 22)

As you brush off the effects of a rowdy Pride celebration, remember to tie up all your social loose ends as July gets underway. Proud Scorps will find their date books stuffed and their cocktails shaken (or is it stirred...?). Line up scores of networking opportunities for yourself through the month and be guaranteed to have a packed summer... if that is the way you like it.

SAGITTARIUS (NOVEMBER 23 - DECEMBER 22)

Have you been shirking your responsibilities? You know you have. It's time to get down to it and worm your way back into the power elite. Gay Archers say they are not interested in wielding power but they hate being subjugated. Throw off your chains of laziness and rise up; Mars sez take charge and overthrow the corporate structure. Marchons, marchons ... in July!

CAPRICORN (DECEMBER 23 - JANUARY 20)

You have that get-up-and-go. So why not use July to get up and go, go, go? Pink Caps are often content to hang around the usual places with the usual (read: boring) crowd. This is no time for blah routine. Get Out and explore the world. But first, find some fascinating travel mates to help you seek those exotic locales with fabulous locals. Send me a postcard!

AQUARIUS (JANUARY 21 - FEBRUARY 19)

Mars will put a bit of zip in your doodah. Your temperature will rise and your sex life will become zesty and very spicy. Seek like-minded folks and expand your circle of close acquaintances. Aqueerians will find that July not only increases their hunger, it also offers home delivery for any type of meal they choose. Are you hankering for animal, vegetable of mineral?

PISCES (FEBRUARY 20 - MARCH 20)

Guppies love to be in a close, passionate relationship. July will bring you ample opportunity to put the spark back into any established (but getting staid and boring) partnerships or ignite your ardor to seek new ones. For those who are swimming the seas in search of the right seaman, this is a good time to get your tail out there and paddle the waters. Is that a buoy?

© 2006 THE STARRY EYE, LLC., All Rights Reserved. For Entertainment Purposes Only. Can't get enough? Join the blog: thestarryeye.typepad.com/queer Lichtenstein's "HerScopes: A Guide To Astrology For Lesbians" is an international sensation. Buy it and feel the vibration.

BLENDING RETRO CLASSICS
from Grease to the Eurythmics

SCREWW
retro queer party
BUDDIES IN BAD TIMES THEATRE
12 Alexander St. (south of Wellesley Station), Toronto

1st & 3rd Friday of each month
$6 cover 150 instant prizes
Opens at 10:30pm
www.screww.ca

Also at BUDDIES: THE DUNGEON, a fetish party held the 2nd Friday of each month. www.the-dungeon.ca

SCREWW'S PRIMARY PARTNERS OUTLOOKS
interactive male
Kwik Kopy 296 Jarvis Street, Toronto 416-595-5679
Timothy's 500 Church St

SCREWW THANKS ITS INSTANT RAFFLE DONORS:
il fornello TONGA
Rainbow CINEMAS
D-Vine Wine

FRINGE PeepShow

By Jason Krell

Hugo is fearless, shameless, an exhibitionist, a player, a tease and gets carried away with his imagination. Sabrina is sexy, wild, curious, open-hearted, funny and eager. This summer, the eccentric, polyamourous duo will share their world of role playing and psychosexual exploration with Fringe Festival audiences across Canada.

Ian Mozdzen (Hugo) & Mia van Leeuwen (Sabrina), cofounders of Winnipeg's Out of the Line Theatre Company, began crafting the one hour erotic comedy, PeepShow three years ago.

"We wanted to explore the images, ideas and topics that we were not seeing in Winnipeg's theatre scene—mostly, queer and erotic stuff," says Mozdzen. "We began with the word peepshow and ran with it."

The two researched the harmless beginnings of peepshows in the fifteenth century when tiny wooden boxes were carried from town to town. The first peepshows featured music, puppets and sets of pictures which a showman could set into view by pulling corresponding strings. The showmen were street entertainers and geared their shows to families.

The peepshow then reached its zenith in the twenties and thirties as silent film gained popularity. It was during this time that peepshows quickly evolved into adult-only displays; ones where men entered small rooms and paid a few dollars to reveal an exotic dancer pressed against a window. Mozdzen and van Leeuwen quickly became interested in that

evolution and looked at the sexier and seedier side of things.

"We saw pink and blue, we saw sex, we saw something strange, something sensual and something spectacular. We heard laughter. It was a picture we put on the wall and danced around, playing pranks and exposing ourselves."

The duo discovered links to pop culture and musical acts like Prince, Siouxsie & The Banshees, The Eurythmics and classic Madonna; music videos; pulp literature; films like 9 1/2 Weeks; and the erotic writings of Anais Nin and the Marquis de Sade. "The Banshees' Peepshow album pushed us into the stylization of the eighties, with its strange sexual sensibility and fashionable aesthetic," says Mozdzen.

A year after its debut, PeepShow got a makeover thanks to a grant from the Manitoba Arts Council. The additional funding allowed Out of the Line Theatre to redesign their sets and costumes and brush up their singing and tango skills. They were also able to shoot a short film to run during the show, which has shown at film festivals across North America.

Mozdzen describes the evolved show as "A kaleidoscope of dance, melodrama, sexuality, games, history, gender, music, lights and realism. It's a wild and ridiculous romp, outrageous, funny, titillating—but also strange and even a little bit shocking."

The voyeuristic show has the audience playing the roles of peeping toms, strip club patrons and movie-goers. Mozdzen says, "Some audience members become uncomfortable with our explicit detailing, but generally people attending a show called PeepShow are not surprised by its sexual content and they are excited about its wide range of performance styles and visuals."

PeepShow's edgy and experimental approach perfectly suits it to tour the Canadian Fringe circuit this summer. As peepshows were historically traveling shows, they hope to carry on the 400 year-old peepshow box tradition by touring their show town to town, sure to arouse curious and critical Fringe audiences.

Mozdzen and van Leeuwen's busy summer of performances include stops at Fringe Festivals in Toronto, Regina, Calgary, Edmonton and Vancouver. Fringe Festival shows are uncensored and non-juried with 100 per cent of ticket sales going directly back to the artists, making for ideal—and potentially profitable—conditions for theatre companies like Out of the Line.

"We do this for you," Mozdzen's added, "It's hard, hard work, so come and enjoy the fruits of our labour." For further information, visit:

outoflinetheatre.com ▼

PeepShow's 2006 Canadian Fringe Festival tour schedule:
Toronto July 5-16 **fringetoronto.com**
Regina August 1-6 **reginafringe.com**
Calgary August 11-20 **calgaryfringe.ca**
Edmonton August 17-27 **fringetheatreadventures.ca**
Vancouver September 7-17 **vancouverfringe.com**

Jason Krell is a small town boy trying to make it in the big city. Outlooks' former graphic designer, Jason is now studying communications at Mount Royal College.

GAY MEN IN BUSINESS

Drew (Left) & Vance

By Douglas Boyce

Phil Moon, a business pioneer in Vancouver's gay village has recently sold two of his established restaurants, The Oasis Pub and Sugar Daddy's.

"I imagine the reason he approached me," explains new owner, Vance Campbell, "is because he wanted to be sure the legacy that he's created would be well taken care of."

Campbell, and business partner Drew Dickinson are aware that some people are anxious about their purchase.

"There was [a] concern in the community that we were going to re-create Granville Street on Davie [Street]," Campbell points out referring to the city's popular nightclub strip. "We're not doing that."

For the past fifteen years, Campbell has been working in straight bars and building the Granville Entertainment District. "That was my immediate past," he acknowledges. "People aren't talking about the fact that in the '70s and '80s it was all about gay bars for me. I am sensitive to the concerns, but we're just not going there."

"I had my taste of what happens when you create an entertainment zone and the big buzz. I wanted to do something that was more community based and more meaningful in my life, being a gay man."

"This community is unique," he adds. "There are very few [places] in the world where you can walk down a sidewalk and see a couple of guys in buttless chaps, followed by a little old lady pulling her grocery cart, followed by a man, a women and a baby carriage, followed by a couple of lesbians holding hands, followed by a junkie with a shopping cart full of stolen goodies—and everybody gets along. It's really a neat, diversity melting pot, probably one of the most unique anywhere."

Oasis Pub

"Change is never easy," Dickinson admits. "We accept the fact that they're going to be naysayers. There always is, but that just means we have to prove ourselves."

"Generally, we have found an overwhelmingly positive response. People have been coming in specifically in the capacity of well-wishers. It's been really genuine."

"We've known each other for thirty years," Dickinson reveals. "My very first job in a restaurant was in one of Vance's clubs in Calgary in the 1970's."

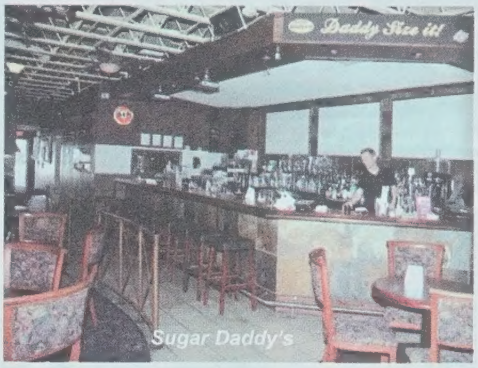
Originally from Vancouver, Campbell opened his first gay bar there in the 1960's, The Upstairs, at the age of twenty-three. This was soon followed by The Thunderbird. "I did that for about two years, lost my shirt and went and hid in Calgary," he reports.

He then "ended up buying a really mainstream dining facility, The Continental Steak House, which I turned into The Parkside Continental that was Calgary's first licensed gay bar. I brought drag queens over the mountains and we had full-on floorshows every night."

Campbell went on to develop other venues too. In Vancouver, "where Numbers currently is, there used be a bar called The Parkside Tropicana which I opened. It was a refreshing little gay bar that did gangbuster business in those days. Down the street, not very far from where Sugar Daddy's is, we had another place called Myrt's Café."

Dickinson, on the other hand, has spent the past six years working as a local realtor. A Vancouver native as well, he returned home from San Francisco in 1999 to be closer to his elderly parents.

During the 1990's, he owned a restaurant, Dede's on Denman, in Vancouver's West End before selling it in 1997. Prior to that, he enjoyed a high profile career as a drag performer that included opening for Eartha Kitt and hosting An Evening at La Cage in Atlantic City.



Sugar Daddy's

Although they deliberated for more than a year before entering into this new venture, they are motivated by the operations. "Drew and I made a vow to each other not to get involved in any stuff that didn't make business sense," Campbell offers.

"The Oasis has a great base clientele," Dickinson continues. "It's extremely varied, which is really attractive to us, and that's great to build on. I would say it's seventy per cent gay, but it's every type of gay person. It's a great mix."

"We've moved it from kind of a pub attitude into more of a restaurant attitude," Campbell elaborates. "We've engaged an excellent chef from one of the finer restaurants in town and he is retooling the menu. We've gone back to the mid-60's tradition of great martinis and great patio cocktails."

"A lot of fresh fruit smashes, umbrellas and things like that," Dickinson adds. "We're switching over to a lot of fresh, local ingredients."

"The opportunity at Sugar Daddy's is immense," Campbell says. "It's one of the few outdoor patios on Davie Street. We were fortunate to buy the restaurant next door also. We are going to be amalgamating the two into one resto-bar complex with a big, outdoor patio and an emphasis on patio dining and drinking."

Campbell admits "the most important component [of the job is] the people that we work with leading extraordinary lives. That really translates to the customer."

"In this business, the front line is your bottom line," he affirms. "We were fortunate in that The Oasis came fully staffed with a great group of people. Sugar Daddy's also."

Dickinson emphasizes that their staff "are excited and thrilled about what's going on. They're full force in support and in fact, they're getting impatient. They want to see when it's going to be done."

"That's a real delight for us because we've both started businesses where we had to start from ground zero or get rid of a lot of problems. We didn't inherit that."

When asked about their long history working together, Dickinson replies, "We share a lot of the same attitudes about how to deal with people, especially staff, and how to make them feel good about themselves. Neither of us are power mongers or tyrants. We believe in empowering people to do their best, and that's how you succeed by helping other people to succeed. We both share that thought process, very, very strongly, and always have. I don't think either of us could work with anyone who [didn't]."

"We intend to grow the businesses," Campbell concludes. "We [will] listen to the community and see what they want, and grow in a way that's meaningful." ▼

Doug Boyce is a freelance journalist who lives and works in Vancouver. His work has appeared in The Globe and Mail, The Advocate and Gay Times.

Photos By Barry Piersdorff

Sunday
June 11

PRIDE
CALGARY

SPARK™

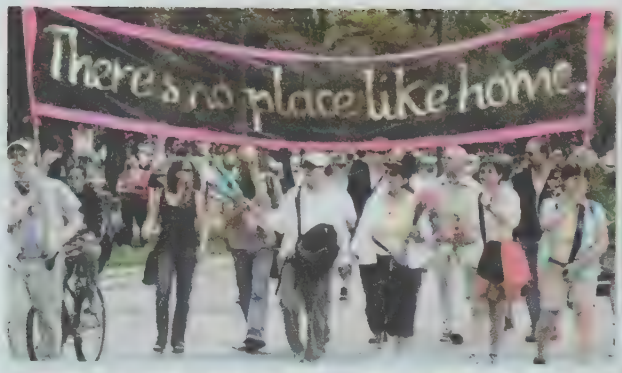
TELUS
the future is friendly®

SPARK something really fabulous.

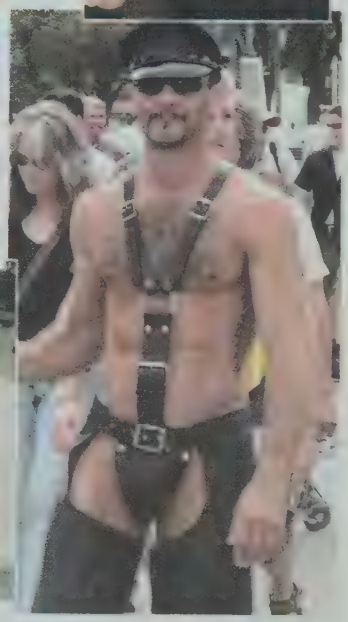
What is SPARK? It's how to stay fab on the go.
Follow cutting edge trends with
video clips from FASHION TELEVISON.
Get drink recipes, video clips of hot models
and keep up with the latest entertainment news.
browse hundreds of thousands of songs
and download full music tracks,
all on your phone. The next big thing just came out. SPARK.

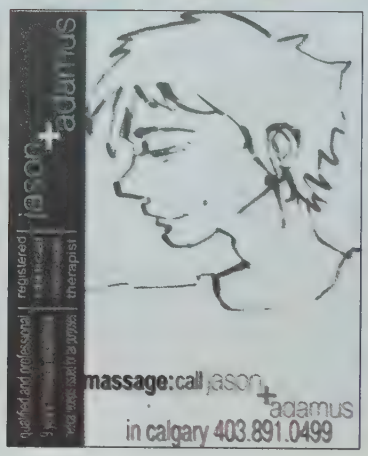
LG 8100

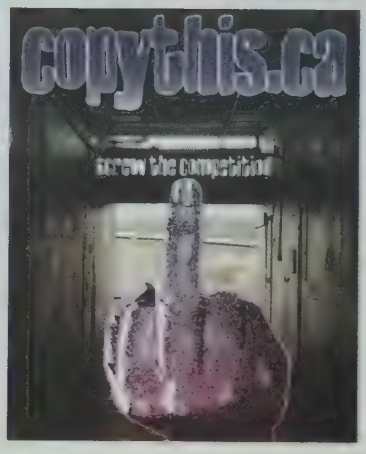
*Not all features are available on all phones. Only available in Wireless High Speed (EVDO) and digital 1X coverage areas. Please see coverage maps or go to telusmobility.com for details. © 2006 TELUS

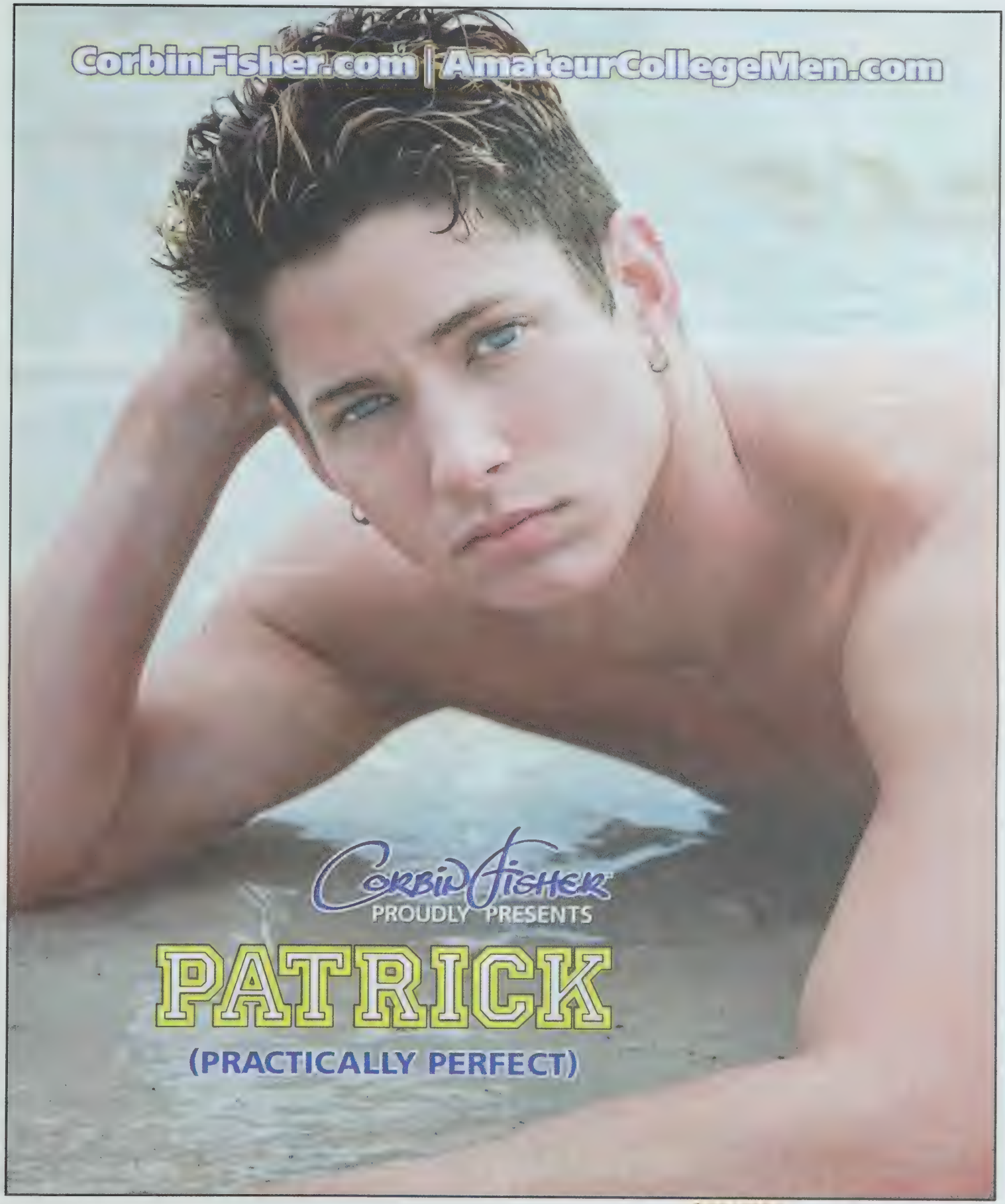


Planning an event in Winnipeg? Contact Brent at (204) 789-9215 and he'll see about coveringit in Out & About.
All Photos By: Brent Y








CorbinFisher.com | AmateurCollegeMen.com
CorbinFisher
PROUDLY PRESENTS
PATRICK
(PRACTICALLY PERFECT)

GLCSA
Gay & Lesbian Community Service Association

OUT IS OK

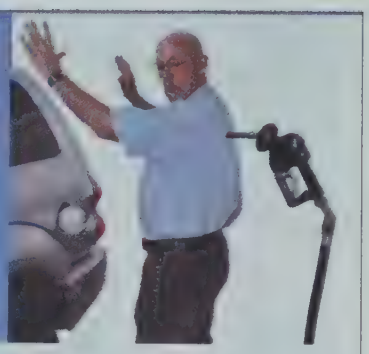
GLCSA, in partnership with the Distress Centre, are proud to announce a toll free 1-800 line to provide peer support and crisis counseling to the GLBTQ community across Alberta.

The line - 1-877-OUT-IS-OK (688-4765) - will be launched Nov. 1, 2006. We are currently seeking volunteers to offer peer support. Please call 234-8973 for details.

Education Resources Support Networking

#4 - 1230A 17th Avenue SW Calgary, AB T2T 0B8

403.234.8973 www.glcsa.org



- single or double row seating
- onboard movies
- fold-down tables and laptop plug-ins
- complimentary snacks and beverages
- several departures daily

$61 ONE-WAY
including GST between Calgary and Edmonton

Ask about our special discounts and ticket packs

800 232 1958
WWW.REDARROW.CA

red arrow motor coach
CALGARY | RED DEER | EDMONTON | FORT McMURRAY

403.235.0789
WWW.DIGITALAVATAR.CA

www.ARBORMEMORIAL.com

Arbor Funeral Homes

Proudly Canadian

Proud to offer the services and products to meet your family needs.

7 Convenient locations to serve you across British Columbia.
24 hours a day, 7 days a week.

out & about TORONTO

EDEN - Sonic Night Club

Will (Left) ,Adrian, Annibal, Arturo, Bruce & Kevin

Chad (Left), Mark & Ray

Shawn (Left) & Tracey

Alex (Left) & Mike

Dwayne (Left), Aaron & Neale

Photos by Matthew Lynn & Brian Lawrence

Dan (Left) & Jodi

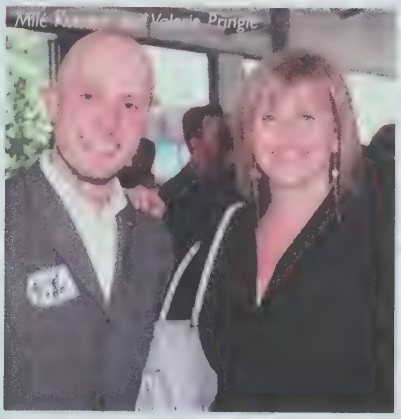
Victoria

The 519 Ribbon Cutting Ceremony -June 15

Maureen Aslin (Left) and Nari

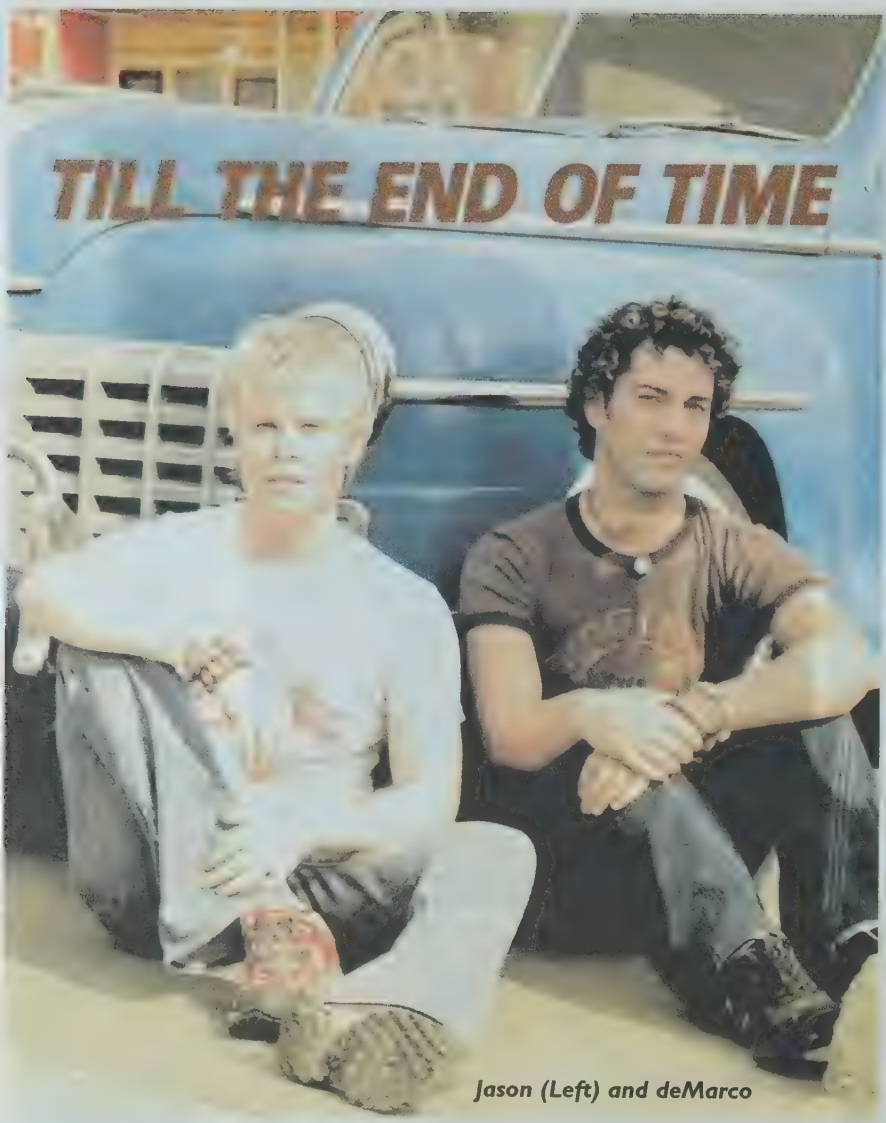
Derrick Navarro (Left) and Shane Cawley

Jim (Left) & Jim


Mike Kusmierski and Valerie Pringle

From Left John Schi
Michele Douglas, Alison

TILL THE END OF TIME



Jason (Left) and deMarco

By Dale Smith

Jason and deMarco are something of a rarity on the music scene—not only are they a performing duo, but also a couple in real life. With the release of their forth album, *Till The End of Time*, the two are looking to break into the mainstream—and into the hearts of North Americans.

Something else unique about this couple is also their bi-nationality. While Jason hails from the American mid-west, deMarco hails from the predominantly Italian Toronto suburb of Woodbridge. The pair met when they both had moved to Los Angeles, each to pursue singing careers of their own. It wasn't quite love at first sight.

Jason was in the process of moving to LA to pursue his pop music career when he started frequenting a restaurant there. The owner heard his story and mentioned that one of his staff had just moved from Canada to do the same thing. It wasn't until Jason had finished his move that the pair met.

"I had just moved to LA, so the last thing that I was looking for a relationship," Jason recalls. "deMarco at the time was—it sounds superficial, but he had some wild, funky hair and he looked way too alternative for me. I very much go for your American boy-next-door look, so sparks really didn't fly that first time we met."

DeMarco picks up the tale. "Jason comes into the restaurant one night, and Michael, the owner, introduces us, and he and Michael go on to have this ten-minute conversation. I'm more of an introvert, so I just stood there and listened and didn't really say much and after ten minutes, I kind of realized that if I wasn't even standing there, they wouldn't even notice. And I had this kind of moment where I said I hate him, I must have him!"

Jason returned a week later to meet friends for drinks and deMarco was his server. "This once again sounds superficial, but he had gotten a haircut and he looked totally different to me," Jason says. "I saw him, and I saw his gorgeous blue eyes and that's really where we made the first connection, because I really saw him and he really started talking. I got home that night and sure enough, he had emailed me. We got together and the rest is history."

"Well he actually stood me up three times before he actually followed through on a date," deMarco corrects him. "I think that's because he found that I was still trying to date girls, because I was still in my own journey of my self-acceptance, so I think that kind of freaked him out a bit because he'd already been there, done that, right? But I made up for lost time, didn't I? Into a relationship and five years later almost."

Despite having musical ambitions in common, the pair didn't end up collaborating until nearly a year into the relationship. DeMarco, not having the background Jason had, was offered a position touring Italy in a show.

"This was about seven or eight months after we had started dating," deMarco says. "That job was going to take me away for three or four months. Jason was already travelling every weekend, and with me being gone too, [we wondered] when we were going to see each other, when we were going to build this relationship? Our relationship was too fresh to even be thinking about long-distance. I think Jason had this idea of trying to do something together, and I think he had a better idea of seeing into the future what this could become before I did."

DeMarco had previously done guest spots at a few of Jason's gigs, and the response had been positive. "At that time, I had come from the inspirational music background, whereas for deMarco, he didn't even know what the Christian music industry was," Jason recalls. "Coming from different worlds, the initial project that we looked at doing was a Christmas project, because with Christmas music I could still provide to my following, which is more the community of faith and deMarco could still participate. So it kind of made sense for us."

Not consciously knowing that it would launch their careers as 'Jason and deMarco,' they had such an overwhelming response that they ended up toured twenty-three cities in December of 2002. Since then, they have been booked up almost every weekend. "We're lucky if we take four or five weekends off a year," Jason says.

Since they started songwriting together, they have averaged an album a year. While this is impressive, the pair found that they were becoming pigeonholed as a Christian group because of Jason's background.

"We really had no intention of being the poster boys for the Christian gay community," Jason says. "It just kind of happened and I think we represent hope to a lot of people. We're two young guys that are out there, doing really good work, that are spiritual, and that are providing positive music that's not necessarily Christian music by any means."

"The challenge has been to separate the musical career from our personal faith," deMarco says. "All of a sudden you get venues saying 'we're not going to have you because we don't want you evangelizing to our gay dance circuit boys,' but who said that we were ever going to do that? And I understand where that comes from because there is a whole evangelical Christian-Right music industry out there that are very exclusive about their artists—and Christian families can only listen to Christian artists. And we're not exclusive."

It hasn't helped that many of the venues in which the pair have performed over the past few years have been churches, even though it wasn't in a religious capacity—simply a generous use of space. That space, however, has left many in the gay community feeling unwelcome.

"A lot of people, especially the younger generation, say 'we like the guys, we even like their music, but we just don't feel comfortable coming to a church to hear them'," Jason says. "We've realised that it's not getting any better no matter how much 'secular' music we do. The fact that we're holding them in churches or in events where you have to pay like Human Rights Campaigns, we've realized that to get out to see these people, we need to go to them."

Four albums later, they feel like they are finally at a place where they can show the world who they really are, despite having one album to their credit that was actually inspirational—especially since *Spirit Pop* was genuinely an adult contemporary pop album.

"It's almost having to re-introduce ourselves to the community because there's been this slanted angle of who Jason and deMarco are," Jason says.

"People need to classify and label, and we're all often guilty of that," deMarco adds. "Unfortunately what people latch onto is 'gay Christian.' So it's been charting new territory with this music and what we stand for, and it's been an interesting ride trying to figure out the best way for us to be authentic and also to not turn people off before giving them a chance to experience us and our music."

So with a challenging career as well as a relationship together, can the pair keep the two parts of their lives separate?

"We don't," Jason says. "That's probably the most challenging thing about what we do is trying to find balance."

DeMarco adds, "Jason and I argue more about things that have to do with our career and our music than we do on personal issues. I think we've just realized that after being together for five years, we're always going to have a difference of opinion on things. Whether it's personal or with career, and we can either choose to suffer with it, which I'm really good at because I grew up Catholic, or we can just get it over with because the fact is we're not all of a sudden going to start thinking the same on things. It's been working."

Running their own label places additional pressure on the pair, as they have to do the administration side of the business as well as the artistic side. Many companies are still scared to take on an openly gay act and others have told them that if they went back into the closet they would be signed, which is something neither can live with.

"I've been there because I was part of the Christian music industry and I'll never go back there again," Jason says. "A part of yourself is dying when you can't be yourself."

Looking forward, the pair is looking to find another act to tour with in order to have a live band and to get a bigger audience and having someone help take the reigns wouldn't hurt either. In the meantime, they've also launched their own production company to help other GLBT artists with their own projects, with their producer Alan Lett, out of Houston, Texas.

Their home base remains in LA, but wedding plans in Canada aren't on the table just yet. With same-sex marriage not recognised in the States, customs hassles are too big of an issue to keep the thought alive for the time being. For now, Jason and deMarco are looking forward to promoting their new album, and to building their promising careers further into the mainstream. ▼

Photos Courtesy of Tango Blues Entertainment **tangobluesentertainment.com**

Dale Smith is a freelance writer who lives in Ottawa. His work also regularly appears in Capital Xtra and Ottawa Xpress, and he was recently published in XY Magazine.

Why Gay Games?

By Ralph Higgins

For many queer men and women, sport is the activity with which we feel least comfortable. Because it was the arena in which our ability, or lack of it, was most likely to reveal our sexual orientation, we learned to avoid participating in any kind of athletic competition. Girls sometimes feared to demonstrate prowess in sport lest they be thought unfeminine; we gay males spent our school days suppressing the urge to squeal when a ball came speeding towards our heads. The word *fag* rang in our ears as the ultimate jock epithet of contempt and derision. Sport seemed a field of endeavour closed to those of us who were either too butch or not butch enough.

There have, of course, been those who were both gay and athletic—Billy Jean King, Greg Louganis, and David Kopay are some of the names we know—but, by and large, professional gay athletes competed while hiding their queerness. Those who came out did so only after their athletic careers were finished.

There were no out gay athletes in 1968 when Dr. Tom Waddell competed in the decathlon in the Mexico City Olympics. Waddell was a medical doctor, an athlete, a conscientious objector in the army and a civil rights worker. He didn't win an Olympic medal in Mexico—in fact he came in sixth—but what he gained from the experience was great satisfaction at realizing his dream and exhilarating joy at being part of the international celebration. He thought, "Wouldn't it be great if everyone could feel this?"

What happened next is the subject of a DVD called *Take The Flame, Gay Games: Grace, Grit & Glory* which traces the history of the Gay Games from Waddell's inspirational moment in Mexico to the gay extravaganza the Games have since become. The film is narrated by Greg Louganis and features film clips and interviews with prominent personalities such as author Armistead Maupin, sport stars Martina Navratilova, Billy Bean, Mark Tewkesbury and former US ambassador James Hormel. Even more compelling are the stories of everyday gay men and women, the school teachers, shop keepers, the stay-at-home spouses and parents who risked so much by taking those first tentative steps towards pride, achievement and, for some, even a chance at glory.

The focus of the Games has always been participation—it is open to any adult who wants to take part—but the quality of competition can be very high. New personal bests are not unusual and sport records are often broken.

The Games are not just about athletic competition. Increasingly cultural aspects are given prominence too. Film, art, photography, music and literary festivals offer visions of who we are and what we might become. There is a wonderful clip in *Take The Flame* of the Sydney Opera House filled to bursting with those who came to hear and cheer gay choral groups from all over the world. Social issues are not neglected either with organizations such Amnesty International and the Project to Eliminate Homophobia creating public awareness, educating and encouraging acceptance. The mere creation of the Gay Games was in and of itself an immensely powerful act.

As the documentary shows, the history of the Gay Games is a reflection of gay life over the last fifty years. The first games in 1982 happened just as the AIDS virus was beginning to take its deadly toll. Games founder Tom Waddell himself died of AIDS the year after the second Gay Games, not living to see it become the international Pride celebration into which it has since grown.

Homophobia, ignorance and religious bigotry are also encountered along the way, but as Armistead Maupin points out, we are at our best when confronted with adversity. We grow stronger, more organized, more determined.

And bigger! The Games have mushroomed in size and scope to the point where they have sometimes become financially unwieldy. Some of the measures used to control this have led to the current schism between the organizers of Gay Games VII in Chicago and the committee for Montréal's 1st Outgames. However, difference of opinion can often lead to positive change. The first event in San Francisco was originally called the Gay Olympic Games until the United States Olympic Committee took legal action to stop the use of the word Olympics. The result was the distinctly different Gay Games.

Take The Flame was written, produced and directed by queer Canadian film pioneer, David Secter. While still a student at the University of Toronto, Secter made *Winter Kept Us Warm*, a gay love story, which was selected for The Cannes Film Festival and won international awards. In the years since then he has given his protean talents to the worlds of theatre, feature films, music, documentaries and the arts. His directorial style in *Take The Flame* is well paced, smooth and focused. He presents us with a finely crafted look at the personalities and forces that have shaped gay sport and life. Secter allows the story of the Games to be revealed through the personal observations and experiences of the participants, creating a mosaic of images that lives, moves and breathes.

Watching *Take The Flame, Gay Games: Grace, Grit & Glory* is an emotional experience. One is in awe, for example, of the bravery shown by participants from countries where homosexuality is illegal and could mean arrest or death. To appear proudly, defiantly, publicly gay under those circumstances is an act of courage that most of us can only guess at. There is a sense too of increasing support from outside the queer community. In Amsterdam, when the figure skating association refused to sanction the competition so that skaters were obliged to give public practice sessions in lieu of competition, Royal Dutch Airways gave every skater a specially commissioned medal and the audience held up scorecards of perfect sixes.

There are an abundance of wonderful moments captured in this beautiful documentary film: Patti Labelle tearing down the house during the closing ceremonies in Yankee Stadium, grandmothers and whole families lining the streets and canals of Amsterdam to cheer on the athletes and the happiness shining from the faces of queer men and women as they revel in the freedom and safety of finally being themselves. Above all, this is the extraordinary story of Tom Waddell, a visionary who had the tenacity and strength to bring his vision to life and who refused to have restrictions imposed upon him. (The love story of Waddell, a gay man, and lesbian Sara Lewenstein, who married, had a daughter and together were the guiding force of the newly created Gay Games, should be the subject of a feature film.)

Quentin Crisp once said that style is being yourself, but on purpose. *Take The Flame* is a film with tremendous style and a tale told to great purpose. ▼

Ralph Higgins is a writer, columnist and book/movie reviewer living in the Annapolis Valley of Nova Scotia.

want to model for OUTLOOKS

We're seeking attractive and outgoing guys for future covers and Don't You Wish features.

If you are interested in applying, please e-mail a recent photo of yourself, along with stats and contact information to main@outlooks.ca

Don't you *wish*?

REESE

This fun-loving Calgary boy of summer enjoys everything about the season from the beautiful outdoors to cinnamon-scented frames on a paint.

Safety Under the Rainbow

together we can put an end to violence & bullying

for more information on training and seminars visit

www.safetyrainbow.ca

Safety Under the Rainbow

Alberta

All Inclusive

By Daniel Wylie and Michael Sinnott

With less than thirty days left till the opening of 1st World OutGames, Montréal is busy putting the finishing touches to what will be a truly unique LGBT event. The motto for these games is: Participation and Celebration, Respect and Fairness, Innovation, Diversity and Empowerment (PRIDE). They will showcase our PRIDE through cultural and sporting events as well as dealing with socio/political questions surrounding LGBT human rights. These games will put a fresh face on the international sporting/cultural stage with fifty-two different events taking place at more than forty venues throughout the city over the course of eleven days.

Photo Courtesy of OSA Images

One single word can be used to sum up these games, "inclusive". The organizers have attempted to include as many different people as possible. Sexual orientation is not a litmus test for these games, everyone, whether you are gay or not is welcome to participate. To date there are already participants from 109 countries. Through the OutGames Bursary program, people from forty-nine developing nations will be able to attend either as an athlete, a participant in the cultural events or at the International Conference on LGBT Human Rights. In addition to the regular late registration fee of $325 which includes all sorts of extras (opening/closing ceremonies, transit pass, etc...) these games have introduced a special $75 activity-only fee, which permits participants with either a tight budget or time constraints to participate in their favourite sport or cultural event. Women's participation at LGBT games has been under-represented, making up only thirty percent on average of attendees. To improve on this, the OutGames has created 'The Circle of Women', a committee of prominent women to advise the OutGames on ways to be more "inclusive" and increase the number of women who will participate at these games.

The organizers have also made watching these games "inclusive". An hour of highlights will be broadcast nationally by Radio-Canada, the French language service of the CBC. The opening and closing ceremonies will take place at Olympic Stadium. Organizers are expecting crowds in excess of 45,000 and have priced tickets from as low as $35 for a single ceremony ticket through to a duo package of $225 for both ceremonies. The opening ceremonies will feature k.d. lang, best known for her legendary performance at the 1988 Calgary Winter Olympic Games and as a current gay Icon; Martha Wash, best known for the single "It's Raining Men"; Deborah Cox, well known dance diva; Jonas, Montréal rocker with sex appeal; Sylvie Desgroseilliers, who sang at the recent investiture of the Governor General; and, of course, the legendary Québec diva Diane Dufresne, adding her unique talent to the ceremony. To top the festivities off, the internationally acclaimed Cirque du Soleil will pay tribute to athletes of all backgrounds in a celebration of diversity.

To make these games as open to the public as possible, the OutGames are offering an "All-Access Bracelet", a one ticket general admission, at a very reasonable cost of $20 which allows entry into thirty-seven of the fifty-two different events for the entire duration of the games. The most popular sporting and cultural events, such as Figure Skating, Dancesport, Physique, The Choral Festival, the Bear and Leather contests as well as the Welcoming, Opening and Closing official parties (Mind, Body and Soul) are all being ticketed individually and most of these events are priced reasonably. Square Viger will be the gathering place for many visitors and athletes to these games. Live entertainment and shows will be featured as well as some surprises.

In addition to the sporting and cultural venues, Sainte Catherine Street will be closed off to become a pedestrian walkway through out the gay village, where many artisans and commercial booths will be set up. If you are planning to visit Montréal during the games you can still find accommodations at "inclusive" prices. While the lower priced University Residences are almost full, there are a number of rooms available at almost all price ranges.

Photo Courtesy of Linda Turgeon Tourisme Québec

Five years of planning and hard work are coming to fruition. From a single employee in December 2001 growing to about eighty employees when the opening ceremonies take place, all are committed to delivering the best games possible. In addition to the paid staff there will be 5000 volunteers to greet the world. The sporting and cultural venues are a legacy that remains from the 1976 Summer Olympic Games. The 16.9 million dollar budget is all in place thanks to the hard work of the organizing committee. The breakdown of the budget is as follows; thirty percent comes from the three levels of Government, twenty-five percent is coming from registrations, thirty percent is coming from the over seventy private corporate sponsors and community partners, five percent is from the human rights conference and the sales of marketing materials like souvenirs and promotional items make up the remaining ten percent. Montréal is bracing itself for an expected quarter million visitors. There are 12,000 athletes and cultural participants already registered with more to come before the official deadline for registration closes on July 1, 2006. Montréal, Quebec and Canada will demonstrate to the world that everyone is welcome to fully participate not only at these games but in society as a whole regardless of who one is or how one defines themselves.

Montréal is ready; let the 1st World OutGames begin! ▼

Daniel Wylie is active in the HIV/AIDS, bear and leather communities. Michael Sinnott is a desperate HouseBear who just can't stop dancing and a former Mr. Edmonton Leather. They are now happily married and live and write in Montreal.

THE BUD LIGHT CANADIAN ROCKIES
INTERNATIONAL RODEO
THANKS ALL OF OUR 2006 SPONSORS

BUD LIGHT

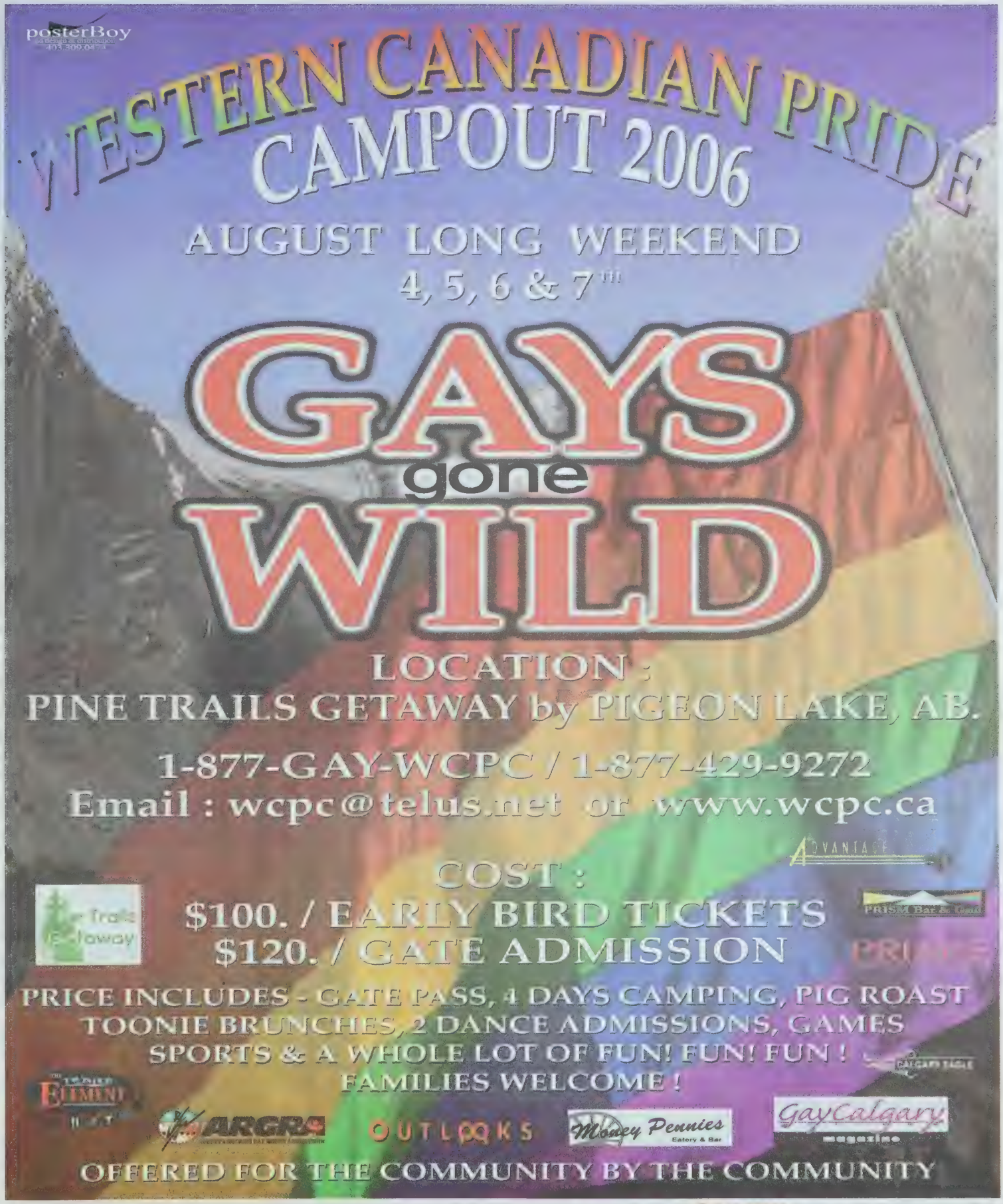
PLATINUM
Money Pennies Eatery & Bar
OUTLOOKS
Cruiseline
403.777.9494
FIVE

GOLD
Boot Boys Manufacturing
PRIAPE.COM
OUT
Charlie's
XTRA!
SYMONS VALLEY RANCH .com

SILVER
SEARS Home Central
GayCalgary magazine
#13
Castleridge Veterinary Clinic

INTERNATIONAL
Logo
HERO UNIT

Thanks For Another Great Rodeo
SEE YOU JUNE 29-JULY 1, 2007
RIDE 'EM IN THE ROCKIES

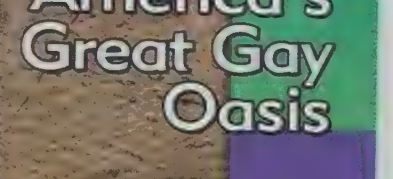

posterBoy
WESTERN CANADIAN PRIDE
CAMPOUT 2006
AUGUST LONG WEEKEND
4, 5, 6 & 7th
GAYS
gone
WILD
LOCATION :
PINE TRAILS GETAWAY by PIGEON LAKE, AB.
1-877-GAY-WCPC / 1-877-429-9272
Email : wcpc@telus.net or www.wcpc.ca
COST :
$100. / EARLY BIRD TICKETS
$120. / GATE ADMISSION
PRICE INCLUDES - GATE PASS, 4 DAYS CAMPING, PIG ROAST
TOONIE BRUNCHES, 2 DANCE ADMISSIONS, GAMES
SPORTS & A WHOLE LOT OF FUN! FUN! FUN !
FAMILIES WELCOME !
OUTLOOKS
Money Pennies
Eatery & Bar
GayCalgary
magazine
OFFERED FOR THE COMMUNITY BY THE COMMUNITY

STRESS!

...Palm Springs Style!

For your free Gay and Lesbian Guide to
Palm Springs, visit www.palm-springs.org
or call: 888-866-2744

palm-springs.org



Straker Strikes the Right Note

By Josh Murray

Highway 15 runs through the heartland of Canada, connecting rural communities along its long stretch of pavement. Jeff Straker, a Saskatchewan-bred musician and songwriter, is taking a few lessons from the route near his hometown by weaving together an expanding collection of songs that are clearly influenced by the people and places of the Canadian Prairies.

Named for the familiar road near his family's farm near Punnichy, Saskatchewan, *Songs from Highway 15* is Straker's second full-length album. Released this past winter and available on his official website jeffstraker.com, the disc is what the singer/songwriter calls "a collection of introspection". "It's a collection of songs that was inspired by a particular place and time in Saskatchewan," he explains. The disc received added support last month after being nominated for an Outmusic Award, an annual honour bestowed in New York City by supporters of the gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgender music community. "I'm the only Canadian nominated this year so I think that will be kind of special, representing us in that respect," he says. Straker took to the stage, making his debut in the Big Apple, during the award festivities and sharing some of his homespun tales of Canadian life and reality.

The performer's interest in music and storytelling came early. Great inspiration was drawn from characters in and around Punnichy, including one neighbour in particular. "Carl was a prairie farming bachelor and I think he had lots of time in his head to mull over his stories and then just loved getting them out," Jeff explains. "He was so fascinating because he had such amazing stuff he was talking about and he also delivered it in a brilliant way. He was a prairie treasure."

But, no matter how impressive, stories don't last forever if they are not passed on. "That is beautiful history, words and art just disappearing," says Straker. So, the inspiration of the great storytellers of his childhood drove him to put his own words to paper and to music. "When I discovered songwriting…I felt like I had been hit by lightning. It was such a new art form within the realm of music that I hadn't even considered before," he explains.

Straker's songs clearly tell stories but ones that are uncomplicated and, often, relatable. "People have commented that there aren't many people writing about where 'we', in the prairies, come from—who we are. I think that's why it's important." The disc's strong ties to Canadian life were a conscious choice. "I look to Newfoundland and see this flourishing tradition of capturing their lives in song—just part of their pop culture. I wish we had more of that in the West. We're less celebratory that way," he says.

Though his songs capture his prairie roots, his inspirations stretch beyond Saskatchewan's borders. "Joni Mitchell tops the list," he says confidently. The music legend—and fellow Canadian—obviously had a profound effect on Jeff's interest in music making. His enthusiasm is clear—and even giddy. "The first time I heard the song 'A Case of You', I think I fainted or peed my pants. Honestly, it was an out of body experience," he says.

While Straker may—or may not—hope for such responses to his work in the future, he is eliciting emotional reactions already. "A few [songs] stand out for me. One is called 'The Wonderful Mrs. Bell'," he says. Mrs. Bell, of the title, was another memorable character from the singer's younger years in Saskatchewan. "She was my first sign that there was something bigger out there…she was the world-beyond to me," he says. "I've not done a show when someone hasn't commented on the song. People see someone—themselves perhaps—in her."

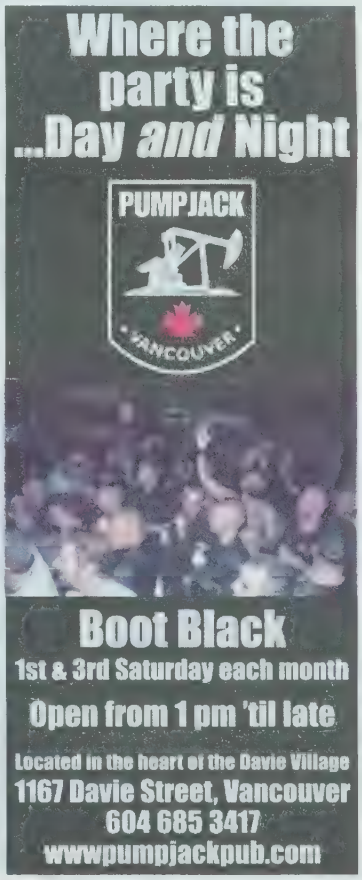
That same universal, comforting nature of Jeff's songs has begun to garner him publicity and award recognition. The Outmusic Awards, first established and distributed in 2001, gave him a nod this year as a top contender for Outstanding New Recording (Male). "As an indie musician, you plug away and plug away and sometimes there's limited response [so] it's good encouragement that what you've been doing is alright and you should keep going," Jeff says. "It's an awesome opportunity to come together and be part of a festival where everyone is out and proud of that, and is also doing what they love—making music. Celebrating that is a no brainer!"

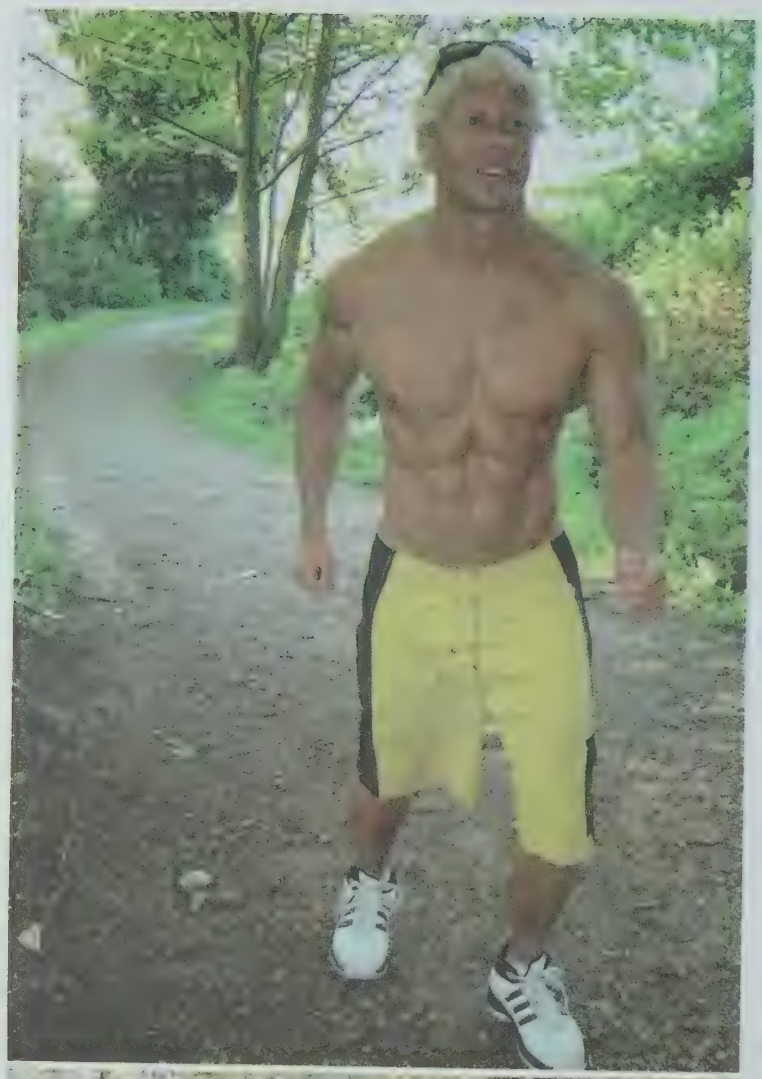
It's clear that Jeff is honoured to be a part of the burgeoning event. "The showcase to me is better than the award nomination really," he reveals. "I get to perform at Rockwood Music Hall on the Lower East Side which is one of the places to play these days. The night is sold out so I'm excited."

Upon returning from the events down South, Jeff is gearing up for a busy second half of 2006. In addition to continuing to promote the disc, he'll be recording demos, perfecting a sizeable theatre role in Ontario and even laying out plans for his next CD with an ambition to be in the studio by December. "I'll also take time to chop down a bunch of dead trees on my parents' farm," he laughs. "You can take the boy out of the farm…"

The boy was indeed taken from the farm, as he now resides in Toronto. The country's largest civic centre has made a profound impact on Straker's musical career. "Being in Toronto threw me into a huge, vibrant music scene that got my energies re-focused on music. You can hear excellent entertainers any night of the week in Toronto!"With an impressive travel schedule, showcases on both sides of the border and an inspiring award nomination now on his list of accomplishments, Jeff is pursuing his ambitions with honesty and passion. Highway 15 may not run all the way to New York, but, for Jeff Straker, it may just be his road to success. ▼

Josh Murray is a Vancouver-based writer, ad ex[illegible] and all-around good time [illegible]





Do It Outside

Summer is in full force, so now is the perfect time to get outside. The sun is shining and the cuties are out! What better excuse to mix in some fun while keeping up your fitness routine than getting out and enjoy some outdoor activities? Not only do most summer physical activities burn a significant number of calories, but you can also exercise under-used muscle groups and stimulate your routine with something new. Here are some great activities you can do alone or with friends and most will have you working up a sweat in no time at all:

WALKING

Walking is quite simply the easiest (and cheapest) of most summer outdoor activities. On average, every minute of walking can extend your life by one and a half to two minutes. Walking can provide similar benefits to a running program and best of all, almost everyone can participate. Among the obvious caloric-burn benefits, walking helps to improve posture, increases bone density, improves circulation, increases HDL-cholesterol levels (the 'good' cholesterol) and can help to decrease mental stress. Remember, an hour of walking is equivalent to about thirty minutes of jogging from a calorie-burn perspective. For those with health concerns, walking is low-impact and greatly reduces the risk of injury. Warm-up first by moving your arms and legs continuously and rapidly to increase circulation and stretch your limbs. Do the same exercise after your walk and use your completed activity as a chance to increase your overall flexibility by stretching. One can always benefit by being flexible!

BICYCLING

The benefits to bicycling are similar to running or jogging and it is an excellent cardio-respiratory activity. Because this outdoor activity is quite engaging and involves seeing interesting environments, you may find without realizing it that you've increased the duration or the intensity of your exercise. Further more, with gas prices so high this summer, bicycling can be a great alternative to driving your car while saving you money and reducing your carbon footprint.

Canadians make an average of 2,000 car trips of less than three kilometers each year per person. These are trips that could easily be made on foot or by bike. Imagine how much gas you could save and what amazing shape you'd be in if we took more of these trips in the summer sun by bicycle. For purely recreational viewing, scenic or off-road adventures, inquire with your local municipality as many have trails designated for off-road use. Also, an excellent online resource to locate regional trails and recreation paths all across Canada is **canadatrails.ca**

Whether on a trail or on the road, remember you must take precautions when exercising by bicycle, as head injuries which account for an estimated two-thirds of bicyclist fatalities, can be largely prevented by wearing a helmet. Also, the position of your seat is extremely important in preventing injury and ensuring a comfortable ride. Your bicycle seat should be high enough so that the downstroke of your leg is never completely extended or locked. You're pretty much guaranteed to work up a sweat, so bring along some hydration and throw on sunscreen to get a safe but decent tan.

TENNIS

Tennis is one of the few sports where the score starts at love-something, it's acceptable to shove your balls up your shorts and a two-handed backstroke isn't necessarily something to get excited about. But seriously, if you are one of those people who demands an organized sport to stay interested in exercise, then tennis may be your game.

Not only does it burn a significant number of calories, but tennis also stimulates positive cardiovascular health. Tennis improves your hand/eye coordination, balance and agility. The sport also increases motor skills and neuromuscular co-ordination while increasing cardio-respiratory fitness. Tennis builds and tones many muscles in the body including your calves, hamstrings, quadriceps, shoulders, forearms and your glutes (your butt) while also increasing flexibility in your joints.

For beginners, tennis often demands more of an anaerobic energy burn than aerobic. Anaerobic is a quick energy burn while aerobic energy is a longer and sustained energy output. With greater skill level and continued play, the body eventually finds it easier to prolong your game by sustaining aerobic activity.

Remember tennis is a non-contact sport and singles in tennis means two individuals on opposite sides and does not necessarily reflect their dating status.

Finally, your backstroke can be one or two-handed. No comments please.

INLINE SKATING

Inline skating offers up to fifty percent less stress on your joints than running or other high-impact aerobic activities and it can burn as many calories as running or bicycling. Inline skating strengthens almost every muscle from the knees to the lower back while stimulating your upper body muscles and allows you to build your core strength.

Inline skates are portable, versatile and relatively inexpensive to purchase. However, inline skating comes with potential injuries so wear the proper safety gear including knee pads, elbow pads, wrist guards and a helmet. According to the *American Journal of Public Health*, only six percent of inline skaters wear all four of the appropriate protective equipment. Not good. Falls are inevitable, especially on uneven pavement and city streets, therefore, I always suggest to novice and even experienced skaters to practice a graceful fall on soft grass at low speeds or even a gym mat. Always strap on your safety devices before throwing on your skates—many injuries are caused before the participant is even moving.

Inline skating also doesn't have to be an individual sport; you also can grab some of the guys and girls together and play a game of roller hockey the good old Canadian way. Game on!

There are many other activities to choose from to keep you interested in your fitness routine outside this summer. Here are some other ideas for fun outdoor activities away from the gym:

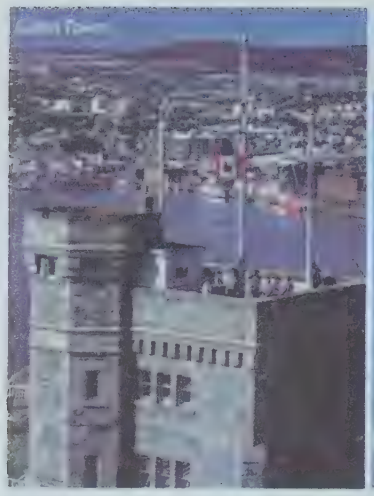
- Take your yoga mat outside.
- Find the steepest hill in your neighbourhood and walk briskly to the top and back.
- Offer to take your neighbour's dog (or your neighbour) out for a stroll.
- Rent a kayak or paddleboat for the day and enjoy your local lake.
- Take your trunks to an outdoor pool or local beach.
- Bike to work at least once a week.
- Hike in a new park.
- Learn how to play volleyball.
- Join an Ultimate frisbee league.
- Walk instead of using an electric cart the next time you golf.

Don't forget to hydrate and be proud of the body you are creating both at the gym and while enjoying the summer.

Safety Under the Rainbow
–Wednesday, June 14

PRIDE CALGARY

Calgary Youth Forum & Dance
–Saturday, June 10 at Art Central



ON THE ROCK

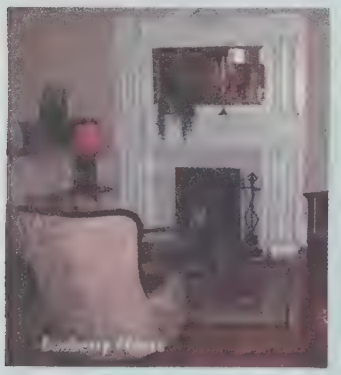
By Roy Heale

Have you ever experienced North America's first sunrise? If your answer is no, then a visit to the continent's most easterly point requires a trip to Newfoundland and Labrador. Enjoy a picnic breakfast at Cape Spear National Historic Site on a spectacular piece of coastline where the sun shines first and you can watch the day begin before anyone else in North America. Pure holiday bliss.

Once it was a country with coins, stamps, flags and anthems, all bearing the Newfoundland name. Now it is the youngest province in Canada with some of the oldest history and traditions of this land. The original gateway to North America makes for a European presence in Newfoundland and Labrador, which pre-dates the Voyage of Columbus by five centuries. As one of the oldest settlements in North America, St. John's—the capital city—has more than its fair share of landmarks and historical sites.

Today, the harbour city of St. John's blends the infrastructure, facilities and amenities of a modern vacation city with the quaint charm of rural Newfoundland. First discovered by John Cabot in 1497, the city was later claimed as the first permanent settlement of the British Empire in North America by Sir Humphrey Gilbert. Now the city embraces seaport old-world charm with interesting architecture, excellent cuisine and *foot-stomping* music.

When you first arrive, there are two striking characteristics of this port city. Firstly, all of the clapperboard houses and commercial buildings are painted different colours for a true feeling that you are walking in the midst of a rainbow. Secondly, as you stroll around town enjoying the scenery don't be surprised when total strangers give you a smile or say hello making you feel right at home from day one of your visit. This friendly Newfoundland welcome which is everywhere—cities, towns, villages and rural communities. You're right at home even before the jet lag wears off and you will feel as though your feet are firmly planted *on the rock*.



Places to stay in St. John's are plentiful including major hotel chains such as Best Western, Holiday Inn and Ramada to name a few. But the real local experience can be truly enjoyed at a Bed and Breakfast or smaller Inn. Of special note for the gay traveller are the two gay-owned and operated side-by-side Park House Inn and Banberry House bed and breakfasts. They are located on Military Road adjacent to Bannerman Park and just a five-minute walk to the waterfront and downtown nightlife.

The Park House is a heritage retreat, which was built circa 1870 and immaculately restored with the addition of modern bathrooms and amenities. Next door, you can stay at the smaller Banberry House and enjoy all the amenities of Park House. A home-cooked gourmet full breakfast is served daily by owner Danny and his friendly staff. Both properties are reasonably priced and there is one luxury master suite, which includes fireplace, jaccuzi and four-poster bed for those special occasions or romantic escapes. These two properties are highly recommended as the best way to enjoy your stay providing comfort and luxury with friendly hosts for a home-away-from-home atmosphere.

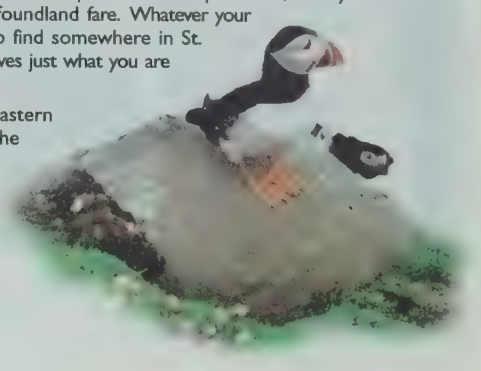
Park House Inn

When you venture out for dining or partying, then variety is the order of the day or night in St. John's and comparable to what you might expect to find in a much larger city. The gay bar *Zone 212* is located on Water Street in the heart of downtown and an alternative after-hours club is within walking distance for those who wish to party until sunrise. However, it's important to note that the friendly hello of Newfoundlanders means that you will find yourself welcome everywhere and the renowned twenty-two bars, clubs and pubs on George Street will all extend a gay-friendly welcome every night.

In the land that lives by the sea, a taste of Newfoundland must surely include the catch of the day. Without a doubt cod, halibut, salmon and lobster will probably be the freshest you will find anywhere in Canada—from the fisherman's boat direct to your table within minutes. However, the local culinary heritage includes specialties from the Irish, Scottish, Aboriginal, British and French settlers with local recipes handed down from generation to generation.

Culinary delights will include recipes you've never heard of and names you will never forget—Colcannon, Pea Soup and Doughboys, Salt Fish and Brewis or Cod Tongues—just to wet your appetite. Of course, you can also sample a Jigg's Dinner or some traditional pub fare including Irish stew, Steak and Kidney Pie or Fish and Chips. Real Newfoundland specialties also include Salmon Ravioli, Braised Rabbit Pie and Caribou Bourguignonne to tempt the adventurous palate. When it comes time for dessert be sure to ask for Bakeapple cheesecake, which has nothing to do with any variety of apples!

Some local restaurants of noteworthy expertise include the Cabot Club for a high-end dining experience with a spectacular harbour view. Oliver's Restaurant for a cosy, intimate atmosphere with reservations recommended on any night of the week as it's very popular with both locals and tourists. The K Café for breakfast, lunch or dinner with perfect fresh lobster at reasonable prices and recommended by fishermen. Enjoy Bridie Molloy's Irish Pub and Eatery for home-cooked pub fare and specialties, or try Velma's Diner for that traditional Newfoundland fare. Whatever your cravings at meal time it's easy to find somewhere in St. John's downtown core that serves just what you are looking for and to suit any budget.



Much of the allure of this eastern province for every traveller is the availability of outdoor adventures, historical experiences and cultural enjoyment. Whatever your vacation pleasure it's readily available in St. John's or within a short coastal drive for a day trip excursion.

HELPFUL WEBSITES:

newfoundlandbedandbreakfast.nl.ca
newfoundlandandlabradortourism.com
stjohns.ca
destinationstjohns.ca
obriensboattours.com
wildnfld.ca
eastcoasttrail.com
lighthousepicnics.ca
heritage.nf.ca/avalon
geocentre.ca

Departing from the land and venturing out onto the ocean can be one of the most rewarding experiences. It really is true when sailors say that everything looks different from out on the seas. Over twenty species of whales, dolphins and porpoises can be found in these coastal waters.

Bird watchers will catch more than a glimpse of puffins, kittiwakes, storm petrels, gannets and murres as they dive beneath the ocean surface for their own catch of the day or make their nests on the small islands dotted along these coastal waters. An added bonus is the possibility of watching a giant, pure white iceberg moving slowly and gracefully on its journey to the melting pot of the warmer southern waters.

Excellent marine tours can be enjoyed from the intimacy of an energetic sea kayaking expedition for a close-up view of nature or from the relative comfort and ease of a guided boat tour. In less than one hour's drive from the city O'Brien's Whale and Bird Tours is located at the town of Bay Bulls or Stan Cook Kayak Tours is at nearby Cape Boyle. If you enjoy hiking then Stan Cook also offers a guided tour of the East Coast Trail with its rewarding spectacular views and wilderness experiences.

Many of the towns throughout the province boast historical landmarks and it is only possible to mention just a few in this story. Whether it's the geological history of the earth and rocks or of the early settlements or the buildings and architecture, this land has a fascinating past and a rich future.

Just a short fifteen-minute drive from the harbour waterfront to the peak of Signal Hill will offer two points of historic interest. Firstly, at the very top of Signal Hill is the national historic site and lookout where Marconi took the first wireless transatlantic message in 1901 ushering in the new age of communications. In addition to the Victorian Tower and interpretive exhibit the spectacular 360 degree views of the Atlantic Ocean, the harbour and the townsite are well worth the visit and attract thousands of visitors each year.

Secondly, the Johnson Geo Centre is located on a thirty-two acre site on Signal Hill. This amazing attraction incorporates The Wonder Underground, The Titanic Story and The Exxon Mobil Oil and Gas Gallery.

When you enter this modern building an elevator takes you immediately down into the rock face to a lower level where everything is located. The natural rock face is exposed to reveal the true wonder underground. In a very interactive, hands-on tour, five billion years of history unfold and the formation and development of planet earth is explained in simple terms. Visitors will discover the rocks of Signal Hill are an incredible 550 million years old, plus many other amazing geological facts about our planet and this region.

Entering the Titanic exhibit, the background music is easily recognized—though Leonardo and Kate are nowhere to be found. You will however see many props from the movie, which were donated by producer James Cameron after the movie was completed. In addition, the Titanic story is revealed in dramatic detail with many artifacts from the wreck, old photos and storyboards which detail the many causes behind this marine disaster. The actual wreck lies on the ocean floor some three hundred miles from St. John's.

Lastly, the Exxon Mobil Oil and gas gallery will fuel your curiosity as to what it would be like to walk out of a helicopter onto the deck of an oil platform similar to the famous Hibernia platform off the coast of Newfoundland. Learn how the switch has been made from fishing for cod to drilling for oil in the Atlantic Ocean.

The Johnson Geo Centre is worthy of three to four hours of your time to learn many historical perspectives of this region.

Heading south along the coast road for less than a two-hour drive is the Colony of Avalon archaeological dig, interpretive center and conservation laboratory. This dig site uncovers the remains of the 1621 English Colony settlement and the interpretive centre houses a fascinating collection of artifacts discovered on the site. This also happens to be a perfect place for a Lighthouse Picnic lunch. It is a short fifteen-minute walk to the lighthouse, which was built in 1870 and is still operational. Here you can purchase a picnic hamper and then find a quiet place to enjoy your lunch overlooking the ocean. Savour the moment and the food at the Ferryland Lighthouse with a spectacular view.

There also exists an extremely varied culture to this province, which is reflected in the thriving theatre community, the ethnic summer folk festivals and the local music scene. Throughout the summer months, there exists a full schedule of performances in many towns throughout the province for all to enjoy. Through the performing arts, much of the local history is retold in addition to some familiar classic productions well known throughout the world.

The easy hospitality and the openness of the residents are sure to be the most memorable experience of your time spent here in one of the world's special places. So, pack your bags and head for that first sunrise on our continent—it is sure to be the start of a day to remember.

Photos courtesy of Newfoundland & Labrador Tourism

Daily flights to St. John's.

Daily non-stop flights to St. John's now available from Toronto, with great connections available from other cities. If a great destination like St. John's doesn't put a smile on your face, our comfy leather seats, live seatback TV* from ExpressVu™ and amazing customer service definitely will.

Book at **westjet.com** or call your travel agent. Or simply call **1 800 538 5696**.

Fabiosexual!

By Simona Rabinovitch

More guys, more prizes, more glam: COVERguy is back. While the first season was a hit on OutTV and is even airing in Israel, it looks like season two, is creating a lot of buzz with sponsors from Canada and around the world!

Wannabe male models and hot guys galore have put their faith in shaking their respective moneymakers as season two of OUTtv and Giant Productions' hit reality television series COVERguy gears up for its highly-anticipated semi-finals, to be shot on location at Toronto hotspot lüb lounge (487, Church Street).

The second season of the six-part series began with two days of open auditions, where our judges selected forty semi-finalists. Then every Wednesday in July, aspiring cover guys will strutt their stuff before a packed house of celebrity judges, friends and fans, resulting in four finalists. The high-energy, dynamic competition has proven to be a great way to start a modeling career; in addition to a thousand dollar cash prize in his pocket, last year's winner Daniel Mazonne appeared on the cover of not one, not two, but three magazines, including *Outlooks* magazine! He also managed to snag a contract with the prestigious Elite modeling agency. Oh, and guess what? He is straight.

While COVERguy was originally conceived to appeal to the gay market, host and associate producer Mathieu Chantelois points out that the show's success indicates it actually speaks to a much wider demographic. Viewers include not just the gay community, but also straight men and women who appreciate the gorgeous, sexy, well-groomed man.

"We've gone beyond the ghetto attitude,'" Chantelois says. "Out of last year's forty semi-finalists, over thirty were straight. It's a lot of fun for everyone and the competition creates a great buzz on Toronto's Church Street!"

Executive Producer Larry Peloso couldn't agree more. "The show seems to be reaching out to a broad audience of men and women and attracting a lot of what the media has been referring to as the 'metrosexual' man: straight guys who are really into looking good and dressing well."

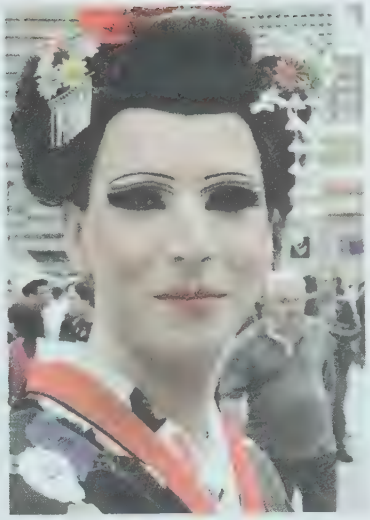
Peloso feels the brand's widespread popularity is due, in part, to its knack for tapping into a market largely ignored by mainstream television. "There is not a lot of TV programming that celebrates the male physique, yet marketers really want to reach that audience," he explains. "I've been really impressed by the keen interest from sponsors, both internationally and here in Canada, from an Australian men's cosmetic line, Vitaman, and Schick Razors to Goodlife Fitness and the menswear store GotStyle."

Of course, the series itself has evolved in response to its diversity and popularity. "This year, we have higher production values, some female judges, and better prizes, too." says Chantelois.

Speaking of prizes, luxurious men's cosmetics and coveted gym memberships come as no surprise to those of us familiar with the necessary 'metrosexual' accoutrements of manicured nails, smooth skin, perky pecs and washboard abs. But what about the, um, Fabiosexual? Giving us a taste of the unexpected treats this season of COVERguy promises to deliver, Chantelois defines this new breed of man. "Last year we discovered the Fabiosexual. It was fascinating to see those guys drinking protein shakes seven times a day and looking in the mirror constantly. Male vanity is certainly not a gay thing."

Be sure to attend the COVERguy semi-finals each Wednesday in July live at lüb lounge. The finals are slated for Wednesday August 16 and the full six episodes will begin airing on OutTV in the fall. Stay tuned!

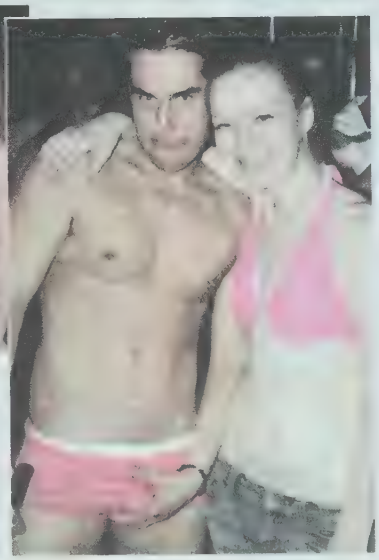
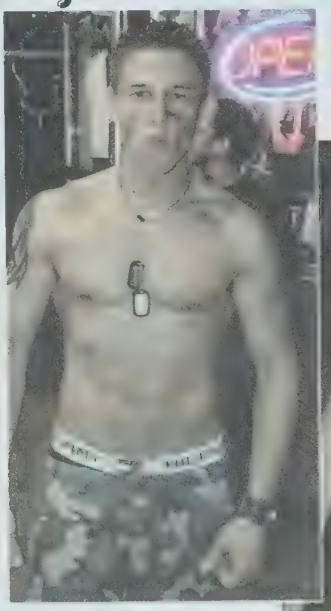
Simona Rabinovitch is a Montréal-based journalist working both broadcast and print. She writes for the Globe & Mail, Nylon, Nuvo and Paper, and has a penchant for hot male models.

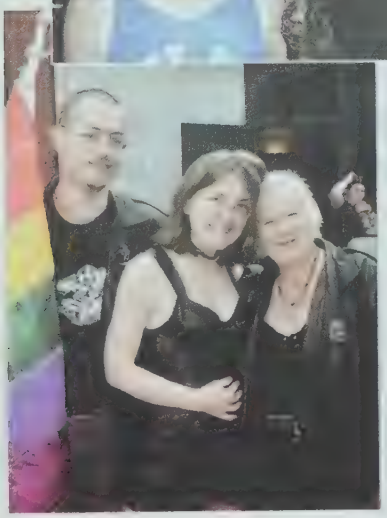
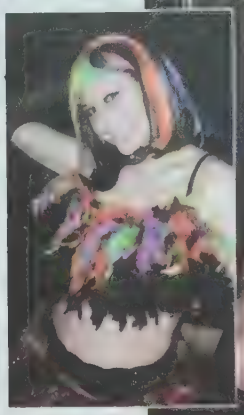
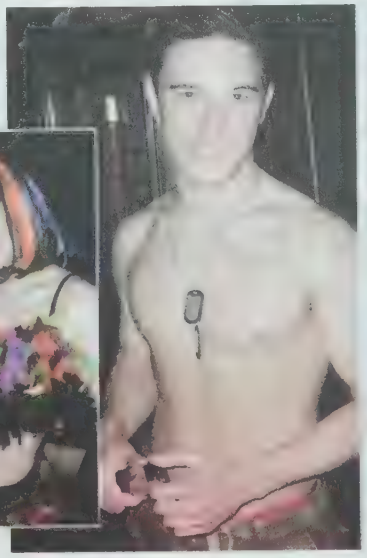
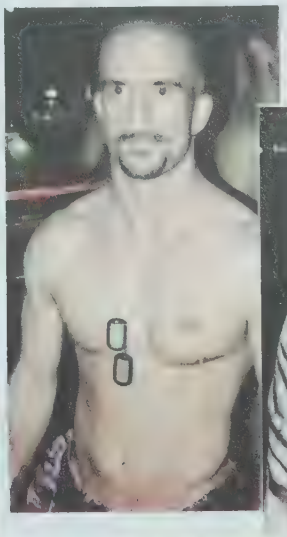


Edmonton
PRIDE WEEK SOCIETY

June 16-25

Planning an event in Edmonton? Contact jackson@jacksonphotografix.com and he'll see about covering it in Out & About
Photos by: jacksonphotografix.com

make your home away from home

B&B

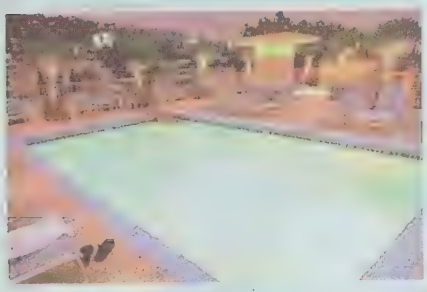
of a gay bed & breakfast

To include your B&B in this feature, contact Cap Peters toll-free at 1-888-228-1157, or e-mail sales@outlooks.ca

OUTLOOKS' FEATURE INN
The Valadon Hotel

Nestled in the foothills of West Hollywood in Los Angeles, Valadon Hotel (formerly known as a Le Rêve Hotel) offers all the comfort and charm of Old European tradition. Valadon's eighty luxurious suites come individually appointed with fireplaces, fax machines, spacious baths, hairdryers, mini-bars/refrigerators, remote control televisions with cable featuring HBO, kitchenettes and private balconies available in most suites as well as many other classic amenities.

Guests of the Valadon will experience the very quiet elegance of Los Angeles at its best. For a touch of romance, what could be lovelier than a moonlight swim on the rooftop garden pool... or to relax in the mineral spa? Valadon offers poolside dining with a breathtaking view as well as twenty-four hour suite service. Relax and unwind with a massage by a licensed masseur or masseuse in the privacy of your suite or call for a video cassette player and the movie of your choice. Same day laundry and dry cleaning services are provided for your convenience as well as coin-operated washers and dryers for your personal needs. Twenty-four hour fax service is always convenient and necessary for the business traveler. Guaranteed tee-times, transportation and other golf amenities can be arranged as a unique service for our guests. Valadon also has meeting room facilities that can accommodate up to twenty people.



The Valadon is located just minutes away from some of Los Angeles' most exciting attractions: West Hollywood's famous restaurants and nightlife, the Pacific Design Center, the glamour of Beverly Hills, shopping on Melrose, the excitement of the Sunset strip, Tower Records, The Roxy, The Hard Rock Cafe, The House of Blues, Century City with its indoor-outdoor mall, Westwood Village, the Los Angeles County Art Museum, and U.C.L.A. ... just to name a few.

Valadon's charm and beauty are coupled with an extraordinary value unsurpassed in Los Angeles—a hotel secret that deserves to be shared.... Guests say "It is unbelievable," still others say, "It's simply marvelous" WE SAY "IT'S A DREAM COME TRUE."

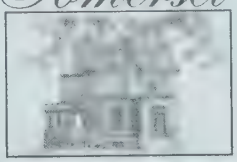
Valadon Hotel 8822 Cynthia Street, West Hollywood, California 90069
(310) 854-1114, Fax (310) 657-2623 (800) 835-7997 **valadonhotel.com**

You'll flip for us

When visiting Ottawa, relax in the elegance of our beautiful Victorian bed & breakfast in the heart of the action.

Discover the comfort of the Inn on Somerset.

Inn on Somerset



282 Somerset St. W., Ottawa
(800) 658-3564
www.innonsomerset.com
email: info@innonsomerset.com

MONTREAL

1453/55 Montcalm, Montreal H2L 3G9
Tel. 514 522 7747 (7SIR)
www.sirmontcalm.com info@sirmontcalm.com

1641 Amherst Montreal Qc H2L 3L4
Tel.: (514) 597-0878
info@aubergell.com

THE FLACS B&B IN THE SUNNY OKANAGAN | FOR SALE $475,000

This established Gay owned & Operated B&B is an Opportunity to move to Kelowna and enjoy the Okanagan, complete with furnishings, appliances, in ground pool, hottub in greenhouse, sauna, barbeque area, beautiful gardens and mature trees located on .87 acre lot, six bedrooms plus Owners suite. Please contact Wayne Ross wayneross@shaw.ca or check our website www.kelownarealtors.com

MACDONALD REALTY

Wayne Ross
Macdonald Realty
250.470.9111

The Nob Hill San Francisco
415.885.2087/877.668.6411

835 Hyde St.San Francisco, Ca 94109
www.nobhillhotel.com nobhillsfgiftshop@hotmail.com
Complimentary Continental Breakfast /Evening Wine Tasting
Discounted Fitness Passes

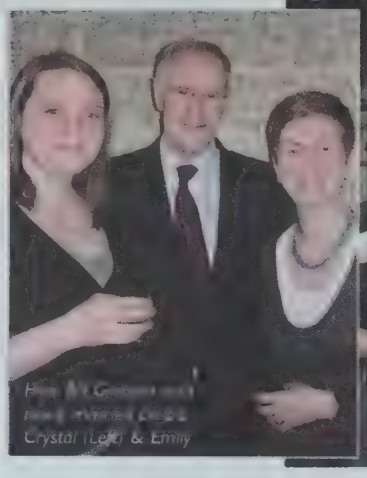
Jacuzzi Suites and Rooms from 129-399 USD
Conveniently located near The Castro

Mention Outlooks & receive an 82.00
w/ Par Rate (May-Oct) & 69.00 Nov-Apr(Mid Week)
Rate

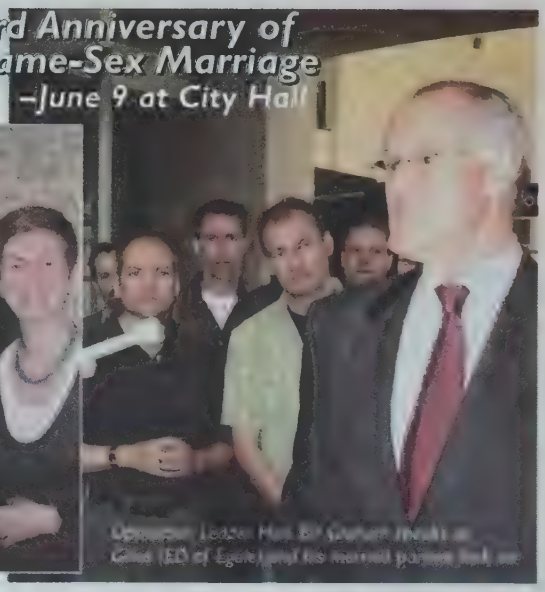
Hedy Fry & Friends at the Lookout –June 6

Planning an event in Ottawa?
E-mail Jeremy for your next event at:
jersvision@yahoo.ca and he'll see about covering it in Out & About.

Third Anniversary of Same-Sex Marriage –June 9 at City Hall

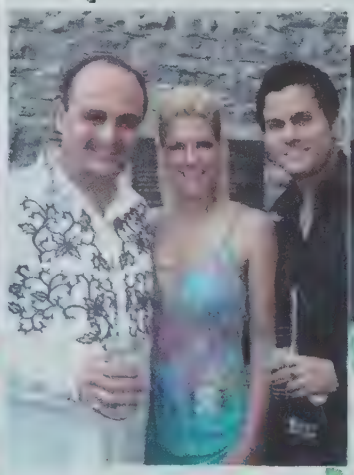


Crystal (Left) & Emily



Pride Fundraiser at EQ3 –June 8

Stephan Klovan Birthday Benefit –June 6 at Helsinki Bar & Lounge



Stephan Klovan (Left), Miss Canada Lindsay & Jason Duval

Councillor McRae (left) and her staff

WestFest –June 10

Swirl&Twirl Fundraiser for Harmony House –June 1 at City Hall

Giles (Left) & Nigel, from Egale Canada

OUT is IN!

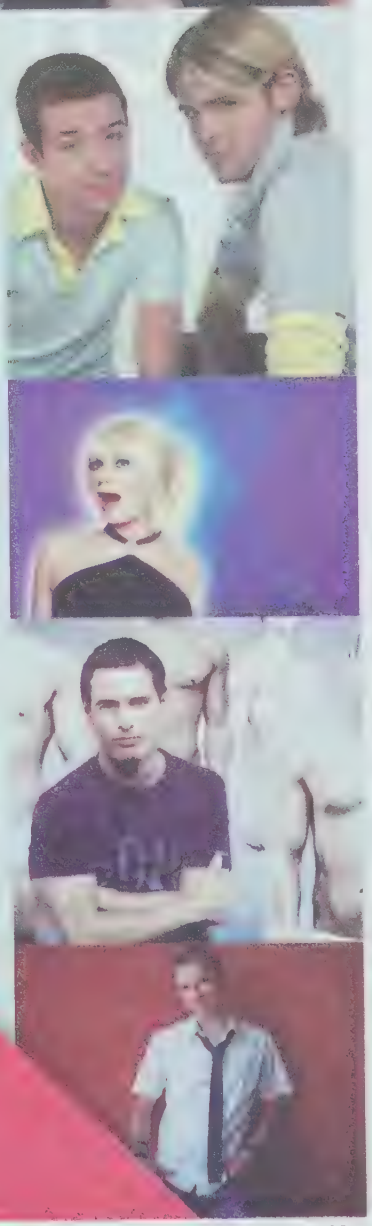
Subscribe Today!

OUTtv is now carried as all digital channels are with cable and satellite providers across Canada, in packages or as a standalone service, for a fraction of the original cost.

OUT tv

Contact your local cable or satellite provider to subscribe today!

www.OUTtv.ca



HARD ON PRIDEVISION

BoysCondo TV clips are now airing on Hard on PrideVision!

Contact your local cable or satellite provider to subscribe today!

www.pridevisiontv.com

over 12,000 guys online now!
get on. get off.

"Dive in."

www.MANHUNT.net™

it's easy, and it's free.

By Darrin Hagen

If you're a theatre artist, summer equals Fringe.

Around the world, the Fringe theatre festivals are changing the way artists present their work. Not only that, but the very nature of the Fringe festivals is changing what kind of work gets presented.

It's a free-wheeling, unjuried experience for the audiences. Joe Q. Audience decides what's a hit and what's not. And in this artistic free-market system, any writer/performer can take a chance and present the work that is most important to them. Invariably, this has created a large number of independent Queer artists. It also means that queer stories that often languished, unproduced by larger companies, are getting a second round on the infamous Fringe circuit.

The two jewels in the North American Fringe crown are Edmonton (the longest-running and for years, the largest Fringe outside of the original Edinburgh Fringe) and the Winnipeg Fringe, the newer kid on the block that has managed to create quite the reputation for itself, including giving its big sister Edmonton a serious run for its money when it comes to who holds the record for the highest number of performances.

The winners in this battle are the audiences and the artists.

It will come as no surprise that the capital city that elected the first gay mayor in Canada would host a successful Fringe Festival and that there would be queer work on prominent display.

American playwright Christopher Durang should thank the Fringe, because it never fails that one of his queer-tinged satirical comedies makes an appearance somewhere on the circuit. This year, Agua Luna Productions is presenting *'Dentity Crisis*, exploring multiple personalities, sexual ambiguity and the death of Tinkerbell.

Tinkerbell may make another appearance in Jordan Zachary Bellan's *Tinkerbell's Closet*, which tells the tale of someone who is plagued by a pink triangle that is impossible to disguise.

Art's Heart, written by Anthony Johnston, tells the story of Art, who lives above the Red Hot Video XXX, whose only friend is a fish and who is obsessed with watching the handsome Frenchman across the street.

Jerk springs from the pen of Nathan Coppens and explores two brothers struggling to build a relationship while reconciling sexual identity with Christian beliefs.

Out TV comedian Trevor Boris, originally a Manitoba farmboy, returns again to his original stomping grounds, this time accompanied by Sabrina Jalees, in Fringe on Trial. The stars of Much Music's *Videos on Trial*, *Stars on Trial* and *LOL* bring their brash brand of stand-up and sketch comedy to the Fringe this year. Hopefully, Boris will forgive me for using his onstage talk show at last year's festival to tease him for not having a full grasp of Drag Icons (he had to "Google" Bette Davis and Joan Crawford before our interview).

Speaking of drag, what would a Fringe be if there weren't a man in a dress, or at least a man who would like to wear a dress, somewhere in the roster?

Lady-In-Waiting is the offering from writer Charles Hayter in a return to where it all began for him. In this play, which was one of the selections presented at the 2005 Montreal GLBT Theatre Festival, the former Manitoban explores gender, identity and boundaries.

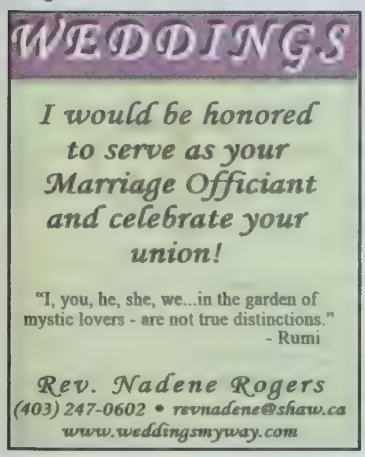
The success of queer themes at the Fringe is evident in the return of a unique smash hit from the 2000 festival. Leith T. Clark (whom I reverentially bestow the unofficial title, "Queen of the Winnipeg Fringe") created *Father, I Can Fem for Myself*, to explore the relationship between a man's-man father and his effeminate son. What made this show special for the Winnipeg audience was the fact that it stars Leith and his actual father, Larry Clark (who also shares co-writer credit). Unflinching and funny, this touching play was the talk of the beer tent when it first debuted.

Naturally, the guys-in-dresses segue was leading to another notorious Fringe Queen: me. The Guys in Disguise hit from 2001, *Tornado Magnet; A Salute to Trailer Court Women* makes one more haul across the prairie to dazzle the locals with more coffee-talk, common sense supermom advice and the now-infamous Twirling Tower of Tupperware.

If you haven't ever Fringed yet (yes, Fringe is a verb now as well), make this the year you venture to Market Square in downtown Winnipeg. This year the Winnipeg Festival runs from July 19-30. Start your Fringe-ing early in the festival, as once a show is a hit, it can be next to impossible to get a ticket. Pick up an issue of the Jenny Revue in the beer tent and read what the audience is saying about their favourite shows. The audience in Winnipeg is well versed in Fringe etiquette and shows an impressive knowledge of the track records of the artists who float through their city every July. If you can't figure out what to go and see, ask them.

Trust me—they will have an opinion! ▼

Darrin Hagen is the author of one book and eleven plays, all of which feature a man wearing a dress. He is currently working on an updated 10th anniversary edition of "The Edmonton Queen."



OUTLOOKS CLASSIFIEDS

Index...

100 - Employment
office 101
domestic 102
trades 103
service industry 104
work wanted 105
help wanted 106
gardening services 107
salespersons wanted 108
retail salesperson 109

200 - Real Estate
homes and condos for sale 201
homes, apartments, and suites for rent 202
shared accommodations 203
accommodations 204
accommodations wanted 205
vacation rentals 206
office space for rent 207
Real Estate Agent 208
Office space wanted 209

300 - For Sale
automobiles 301
home furnishings 302
antiques and artworks 303
computers 304
general and miscellaneous 305
garage sales 306
pets 307

400 - Personals
massage 401
friends 402
models 403
dating services 404
announcements 405
phone lines 406
general 407
health services 408
personal services 409
personal growth 410
Escorts 411
Erotic Body Massage 412
women's services 413

500 - Announcements
birthdays 501
anniversary 502
obituary 503
in memoriam 504
notices 505
general 507
lost & found 508
services 509
weddings 510

600 - Travel
accommodations 601
travel Alberta 602
travel BC 603
camping 604
travel international 605
general 606

700- Business
services 701
business opportunity 702
computer rental 703

HOW TO RESPOND TO A REPLY #

Send your letter to:
Box 439, Suite 100, 1039 17th Ave. S.W.
Calgary, Alberta T2T 0B2

Mark on the *OUTSIDE* of the envelope the number you wish to reply to. *Outlooks* will forward to the advertiser.

OUTLOOKS

ACCEPTS THE FOLLOWING:

CHEQUES / MONEY ORDERS

VISA

100 employment

Arthur Murray
Franchised Dance Studios

Arthur Murray Dance Studio is looking for fun, energetic, self-motivated male instructors to start a career in the wonderful world of dancing.
No experience required. We will train. Full-time position only.
Must be 18 years or older. Call 403-319-0732 to book an appointment.

103 trades

A handy kind of guy experienced with painting/decorating, tile, small repairs, and electrical, available for your household needs. Reliable, honest, reasonable rates call Sterling @ (403) 244-2993.

200 real estate

WWW.GAYREALESTATE.COM
FREE Buyers Assistance
FREE Sellers Market Analysis
FREE Relocation Kit
any city USA / Canada or Mexico
No cost or obligation to be represented!

203 shared accommodation

GWM Seeking country home roommate near Calgary. Reasonable rent for help with farm yard work/chores, interest in horses an asset. Phone (403) 337-2700 or (403) 589-8882

Shared 2 bedroom condo in Kensington. Close to SAIT, University and transit system. Mature, quiet, non-smoking male $375 + DD call Rick in Calgary 403-270-7238

ROOMMATE WANTED
Looking for Flight Attendant to share a d/t condo in Calgary. $500 per month which includes fully furnished room with TV, DVD, VHS & stereo. $250 DD. Call Richard at 403-228-1512

204 accommodation

Rooms and Suites in Downtown Calgary
$40 - $100 per night

11th Street
Lodging
Bed and Breakfast

PREMIUM DOWNTOWN LOCATION
UNBEATABLE RATES
PROUDLY SERVING THE INTERNATIONAL COMMUNITY FOR OVER 7 YEARS

JOHN OR PETER
(403) 209-0111
HTTP://WWW.11STREET.COM

206 vacation rentals

PUERTO VALLARTA MEXICO
Boana-Torre Malibu / Condo Hotel, Amapas 325, Puerto Vallarta, Jalisco, Mexico. Tel/fax: 011 52 (322) 222-6695, tel:011 52 (322) 222-0999. www.boana.net boana@pvnet.com.mx One block from gay beach. Each unit has one bedroom, two bathrooms, kitchenette, living room, balcony, air-conditioning. Maid service. Gay Vallarta's largest pool. Office open daily 9am-5pm (CT).

305 general sales

Best Video and DVD for sale and rent! New releases and hard to find classics.

EXPRESS VIDEO

#202, 11745 Jasper Ave.,
Edmonton,AB T5K 0N5.
Ph:780-482-7480.
E-mail:
exec.express@shaw.ca

401 Edmonton massage

Acu massage therapy
Experienced registered massage therapist. Specializing in relaxation and pain relief massage. For appt. phone Dwayne (780) 483-3190

BUY, SELL OR TRADE...
TAKE OUT A CLASSIFIED AD IN
OUTLOOKS

401 calgary massage

RELAXATION MASSAGE
www.Markmassage.cjb.net
Male or Female Welcome
Call Mark in Calgary
403-630-8048

401 vancouver massage

"Better Than Sex (TM)"
men purr: nurturing sensuous full-body Tantric massage by California-certified connoisseur of touch. Individual sessions, lessons, workshops 604-682-3269 Ext. 9466
www.growinghealthier.com
Visa / MC

PACIFICA
BODYWORKS
BC's best all-male massage
Noon - 10PM Daily
Free Parking
Air-conditioned
604-526.3605

402 friends

FRUSTRATED BY BDSM
E-MAIL DREAMERS?
A letter takes more effort, respondents are more serious. Experienced Master, B/D interests, in Vancouver/Victoria area seriously into Master/slave scene, seeks slave aged 18-29 prepared to move from fantasy to reality. Suggest initial trial period (weekend or ?). Write with phone and/or postal address to Box 0899.
No e-mail! Serious only

Brazil (45.180.96) GWM masculine hairy top, foot/tickle fetish seeks: 30-40 ND/NS non-slim caring, cuddlish, suportive blond (plus) serious life partner
Marc
Box 3670
20001-970 Rio, Brazil

26 yr. old african searching for a man for a long lasting relationship. I am slim, romantic, honest, easy going with a good sense of humor. Interested people should write with photo to:
Afrifa Benjamin Armstrong
NorthBridge Rd.
P O box 193
Nsoatre - B/A Ghana

Looking For A Partner
Young handsome black guy, very honest, open and outgoing. Active romantic looking very seriously for a genuine relationship to meet and more.
Gyau Augustine
Box 512
Berekum B.A.
Ghana W.A.

Young black lad 26 yrs old from London, UK. 6ft tall, well-built, attractive, sincere, understanding, trustworthy, caring and romantic. Seeking a geniune man for long-term relationship. Somone loving and understanding. Ages, looks and race are not important. Love is all we need. Write with a photo to:
Willy 0.
43 Guinnes Sq.
Pages Walk, London
SE1 4HH UK.
Give it a try

A ghanian young slim guy. Good looking, single, interested in travel and music. I would like to meet a guy for possible friendship, hot pics.
All letters answered.
AB
P O Box 1775
Sunyani B/A
Ghana, West Affrica

20 yr old goodlooking tall black african guy seeks sincear openminded serious correspondant-no games please. Possible relationship with the right person. Age looks are unimportant. Write to: Boakye Kwadwo
PO Box 244 Nsatre B/A Ghana

OUTLOOKS CLASSIFIED ORDER FORM

CURRENT DEADLINE: July 21st, 2006
Complete this form and mail or fax it to Outlooks at the address on Page 5. All ads placed on our website at no extra cost. Please do not mail cash.

Please place my ad in Category # _____
Please add the following headline to my ad ($10.00 extra): _____

NAME: _____
ADDRESS: _____
CITY: _____
PROVINCE/STATE: _____
CODE: _____
DAY PHONE: _____
HOME PHONE: _____

ALL PHONE NUMBERS APPEARING IN ADS MUST BE VERIFIED

SIGNATURE REQUIRED FOR CREDIT CARD PURCHASE

PAYMENT OPTIONS: (circle one)
CASH - CHEQUE - MONEY ORDER
VISA - MASTERCARD - DINERS CLUB - AMEX
CARD NUMBER: _____
EXPIRY DATE: _____
SIGNATURE: _____

FIRST 25 WORDS - PLEASE PRINT CLEARLY

ADDITIONAL 25 WORDS (10.00 CHARGE)

INVOICE PLEASE COMPLETE FULLY

First 25 Words:	$20.00	_____
Additional 25 words or less:	$10.00	_____
Entire ad in Bold:	$10.00	_____
Headline:	$10.00	_____
Photograph (1"x1" B&W):	$15.00	_____
Border Around Ad:	$15.00	_____
Reply Number Forwarding:	$5.00	_____
SUBTOTAL per month:		_____
FREQUENCY:		
3 Issues: SUBTRACT 10%		_____
6 Issues: SUBTRACT 15%		_____
12 Issues: SUBTRACT 20%		_____
ADD 7% GST:		_____
GRAND TOTAL:		_____

404 dating services

GAY MALE SEX!
Chat live or meet local gay men. Try us free!
(403) 777-9494. Enter code 3200.

407 general personals

Michelangelo could... can you?
Newly formed gay men's life/figure drawing group. Professional instruction/male models available. Stephen1948@shaw.ca for more information

FERREIRA-WELLS IMMIGRATION SERVICES
We Help Make Canada Your Home

Get our team of hopeless romantics working for you...

Friendly service, extraordinary success rates.

We are passionate about our clients and seeing them happily united with their partners as fast as possible. Around the world or around the block, we'll help you bring your lover home.

Find out if you qualify.
Call us today for a free assessment

416-651-8889
info@immigrationservices.ca
www.immigrationservices.ca
1377 Bathurst Street
Toronto, ON M5R 3H8

Certified Canadian Immigration Consultants CCIC-CSIC

Cruise
Gay Astrology's Website

www.AccessNewAge.com/Stargayzer

for
Lichtenstein's horoscopes
Gay Love Signs, Closets in your Chart
Stonewall horoscope

This site offers easy to order personal readings by Madam L.

Foreign Lovers and immigration

I have been helping same sex couples with Canadian immigration since 1994 when my partner became a permanent resident. I am one of Canada's most experienced professionals on immigration for same sex couples. Let me help you and your partner live "happily ever after" in Canada.

Peter Bernier at Immigration Link
1-888-922-9495 416-922-9495
1 Gloucester Street, Suite 114B
Toronto, Ontario M4Y 1L8
out@gayimmigration.ca

411 escorts

B.C. BOYZ - DOUBLE THE FUN
Jesse 21, 6'1 180 - 8 inch cut. Hot and Smooth. Erik 24, 6'4 180 9 inch cut, swimmers build. In Calgary June 29-July16. Edmonton July 18-30. Single or Duo In+Out Calls
24 hrs Call (604) 768-8220

KYLE
24 y, smooth, attractive, versatile, boyish body, uncut, bubble butt, outcalls only
(403) 922-9166

602 travel Alberta

Northernlights B&B
EDMONTON
Come and enjoy our home and relax in the outdoor heated swimming pool. We are conveniently located close to West Edmonton Mall and a short drive to Downtown or White Ave. Call for more information and rates (780) 483-1572
www.nlightsbnb.com

701 business services

WebSiteInaCan.Net
...YOU JUST CLICK & SERVE!
DOMAIN REGISTRATION · SITE HOSTING
SPAM-FREE EMAIL · SSL CERTIFICATES
WE DO THE WORK SO YOU WON'T HAVE TO!

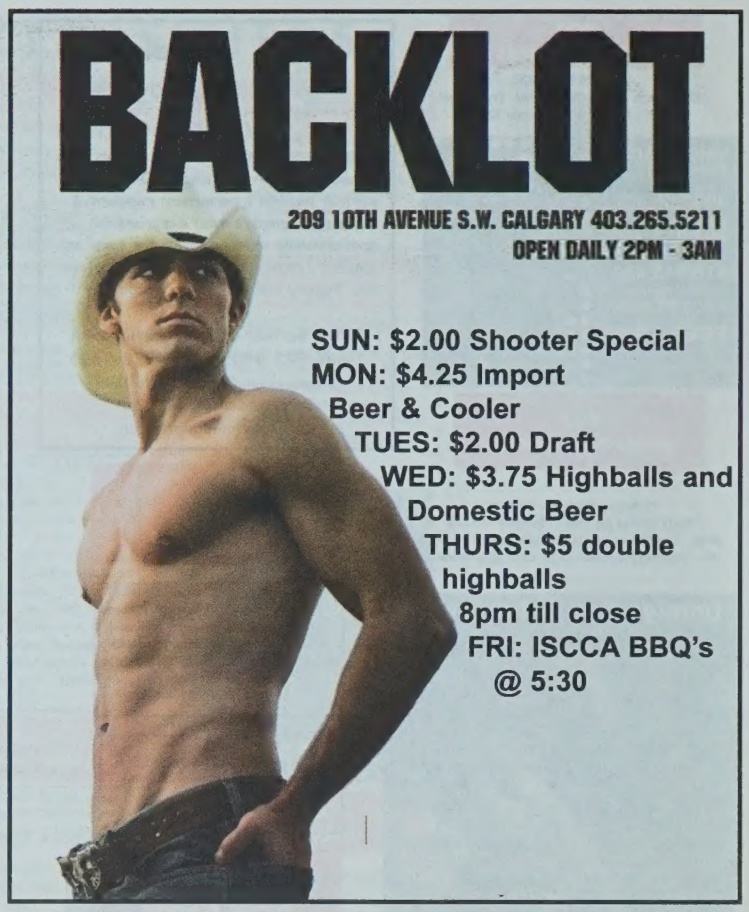
702 business opportunity

Victoria Steambath for sale. Opened in 1994, good lease in place, good income, owner retiring. Call (250) 213-6038

saskatoon diversity network

June 10 17

Photos by Megan Mormon



BAREBACK MOUNTAIN

From: Puppyproductions.net

Featuring: Luka Nike, Nikos Laz, Steve Strong, Leo James, Leo Mack, Joey James, Kyle Martin, Leo Sparks, Ethan James

Running Time: 130 minutes

This is the month for cowboys, campfires and rodeos, so *Bareback Mountain* is appropriate to set the mood for western revelry in July. Not surprisingly, the movie begins with Luka and Nikos sitting around a roaring campfire, enjoying their summer camp-out as the sun is setting behind them. They reminisce about old times together and Nikos is reminded of the first time that they met—about six years ago. Luka realises it was at the same place, same campground, same site, same tent and same fireside aromas but the time has passed very quickly since their first encounter.

It's a very cold night but their campfire and stories keep them warm until Luka decides it's time for bed. He heads into the tent but Nikos decides to stay outside by the fire to keep watch for intruders. After a while, Luka realises how cold it must be outside and he demands that Nikos join him inside the tent. Inevitably, the cold brings them closer together and Nikos cannot resist the urge to take Luka forcefully and have his way. No words are spoken but Luka submits to the aggressive power of Nikos and each knows their respective roles like two familiar lovers. Nikos is rough and Luka submits readily to the forceful pounding and strength of Nikos.

Later, sitting by the campfire again, their conversation leads to true confessions when Nikos admits that Luka was his first time with a man. However, Luka has a story to recount about his first time, which was about a year before the two met. When Luka was working as a ranch-hand, he was seduced by a co-worker, Steve Strong, who demonstrated that two horny cowboys can really help each other with sexual stress relief and still be manly cowboys. It turned out that Luka was a natural when it came to submitting to Steve's domination but his own animal lust also put him on top—and proved his flexibility. For a first encounter, Luka proved his natural talents were hidden deep inside just waiting to come out.

As the sun rises and sets on Bareback Mountain, Luka and Nikos reveal the naked truth, sharing stories of their sexual encounters with horse-hung studs. Happy trails are anywhere and everywhere for these two cowboys as each story adds another notch to their respective belts.

RATING:
(OUT OF FIVE STARS)

MUSIC:	★★★★
BODIES:	★★★★★
ACTION:	★★★★★
SETS:	★★★★
STORY:	★★★★

Review sponsored by Express Video
#202 - 11745 Jasper Avenue, Edmonton
(780)482-7480 exec.express@shaw.ca

Camp Out

From: Studio 2000 Videos

Featuring: Trevor Knight, Bobby Brennan, Chip Noll, Tommy DeLuca, Eric Hunter, Lee Walters, Mike Harrell, Tim Atwood, DC Chandler

Running Time: 75 minutes

It's time for a group of scouts to go to summer camp but their troop leader, DC Chandler, is sick with the summer flu, so his friend Trevor Knight has to assume the role of scout leader for the weekend. Trevor is pleased to take on the responsibility but DC warns him that sometimes these hormone-raging young men can be quite a handful. That thought seems to delight Trevor even more.

Even though he's inexperienced, Trevor is a success when he welcomes the scouts to camp and hands out the next day's assignments. The young men seem to enjoy the prospect of a different leader and the surprise of what's in store with a new temporary scoutmaster. As they all retire to their tents for the night, these handsome young men are ready for a weekend camp full of outdoor activities, fresh air and exercise.

Alone in his tent, Trevor is studying his scouting manual when Bobby Brennan joins him to find out why he wasn't given an assignment for the next day. Trevor forgot to mention that Bobby is his personal assistant for the day and has to help him oversee all the activities. The inquisitive Bobby wants to know what that entails and immediately begins his own interpretation of helping Trevor by assisting with the bulge under his shorts. Bobby quickly reveals the ten inches hidden in Trevor's pants. This is one area where no lessons are needed. Soon they are both naked and Trevor discovers that Bobby also has an impressive package and these two horny studs enjoy their first night of camping.

The next day rope tying and first-aid are the order of the day as the scouts divide into smaller groups for their lessons. Somehow, these young men manage to turn each of their classes into sexual escapades in the wilderness. Mouth-to-mouth resuscitation inevitably leads to more physical contact than the scout manual intended but these muscular young men are all eager to learn from each other. The Italian stallion, Tommy DeLuca, is ready to teach them all a lesson they won't soon forget. When the patient is horse-hung Tim Atwood flat on his back on a picnic table then the temptation is too great for Tommy to follow the manual without some personal touches added to the routine.

At the end of the weekend, Trevor returns home to visit with DC and give his report on the lessons learned during the camp-out. He finds DC is over the flu and eager to hear about his experiences with the scouts. As soon as Trevor recounts the escapades of the past few days, it makes DC horny, especially after he's spent a few days alone in bed. These two studs waste no time in heading for the shower together and enjoying a hot reunion that ends up in the bedroom. Even after a weekend of great sex Trevor is ready for more action with DC and it's easy to understand this when DC struts his stuff and shows why he's the leader of the pack.

RATING:
(OUT OF FIVE STARS)

MUSIC:	★★★★
BODIES:	★★★★★½
ACTION:	★★★★★
SETS:	★★★★
STORY:	★★★★

Review sponsored by
GayHotMovies.com

CruiseLine®

HOT MALE CHAT
TALKING CLASSIFIEDS

CruiseLine

403.777.9494
FREE CODE 3205

Now purchase time through Interac Email Money Transfer - Call customer service to find out how!

Membership by phone 1.900.451.8434 (75 min/$24.95) For other payment options call customer service 1.877.882.2005.

cruise. anywhere.
try for free! text "xtra" to 5FREE

CruiseLine
text

YOU'LL FIND IT HERE!™

CONNECT • CHAT • MEET™

Vancouver 604.257.5555
Victoria 250.220.1000
Calgary 403.355.2222
Saskatoon 306.374.8181
Toronto 416.915.4545
Edmonton 780.409.3333
Winnipeg 204.480.3000
Regina 306.347.0000

Find Your Local Number
1.800.777.8000

FREE TRIAL
CODE 1501

1.900.451.3800 $1.99/min 18+ InteractiveMale.com

YOU'LL FIND IT HERE™

$19.00 FOR 60 MINUTES

Vancouver 604.639.3511
Calgary 403.234.6538
Toronto 416.915.1858
St. Catherines 905.704.3646
Victoria 250.414.6962
Edmonton 780.490.2273
Hamilton 905.296.0566
Kitchener 519.342.1808